

News release - Stephen Mullighan

First stage of AdeLINK tram extension out to market

Stephen Mullighan

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The first stage of the State Government's massive expansion of Adelaide's tram network is out to market.

The \$50 million project will see the city tramline extended along North Terrace to Adelaide's East End.

The extension forms Stage One of EastLINK, with future stages planned through Kent Town to the Eastern suburbs. The extension also marks the first stage in the CityLINK loop around the CBD.

The extension will feature three new stops and provide a frequent and reliable link between the Riverbank's Educational and Cultural Precinct, Entertainment Precinct and the Health and Biomedical Precinct.

The 10-minute free shuttle service could transport more than 2000 people an hour between the city's east and west ends.

Works are scheduled to commence in the first quarter of next year and be completed by the end of 2017, weather permitting.

The State Government is also calling for tenders for improvements to our existing tram network, including a much needed upgrade to the City South tram stop and upgrading tram tracks that will provide tram passengers with a smoother, quieter journey.

Background

The tender will include the design and construction of the one-kilometre extension from the intersection of King William Street and North Terrace to East Terrace.

The City South works will deliver a much needed upgrade to the existing tram stop located at the intersection of Sturt, Halifax and King William Streets that will improve accessibility for people with disabilities and upgrade track that was installed in the early 1980s.

Additional track upgrades will occur along Jetty Road to improve the running of the trams and improving safety for cyclists with the inclusion of a rubber inlay.

The Jetty Road works will be scheduled to start mid next year, well after the busy summer period.

The works will be delivered in line with the State Government's Industry Participation Policy, which dictates that as many local workers and contractors as possible are utilised.

Quotes attributable to Transport and Infrastructure Minister Stephen Mullighan

The State Government's investment in revitalising our public transport network is unprecedented.

This \$50 million investment to kick start AdeLINK tram expansion is in addition to the \$1.5 billion rail revitalisation, electrification and extension of the Noarlunga line to Seaford, the \$160 million O-Bahn City Access Project, the \$152.5 million electrification of the Gawler line to Salisbury, which will begin next year, and the \$238 million Torrens Junction project.

AdeLINK is an ambitious project that will connect North, South, East and West, ease city congestion and reduce our carbon footprint it is also an investment in South Australian jobs – we will ensure as many local jobs and contractors as possible are utilised during the project.

Expanding our tram network has the potential to attract investment, boost economic growth and encourage urban renewal and jobs, and bring residents and visitors to the city centre.

Importantly, it will support and contribute to the growing market demand for residential development in the CBD, inner and middle metropolitan Adelaide.

We know light rail is a successful public transport option which encourages people to start using public transport.

The extension of the Glenelg tram line to the Entertainment Centre has proven to be extremely popular since it was opened, with many commuters making the switch from driving their cars to taking the tram.