

Hon Stephen Mullighan MP Minister for Transport and Infrastructure

Tuesday, 14 November, 2017

Temporary rail closures for Torrens Rail Junction works

The first steps to major upgrades on Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) tracks and signalling will commence this weekend as part of the Torrens Rail Junction Project.

Unfortunately, these works are unable to be performed safely while trains are running.

While much of the work on Torrens Rail Junction has been completed when passenger and freight trains are running, these upcoming works will require some further rail closures to enable them to be completed safely.

A partial closure of the Gawler rail line between Adelaide and Mawson Lakes will commence from 9pm this Saturday, November 18 with services resuming on December 5. These services will be replaced by free substitute buses.

The temporary closure of the Outer Harbor and Grange rail lines will be extended until the new year, with first services scheduled to resume on Monday, 15 January, to allow for these important works to be carried out. Free substitute bus services will continue during this time.

Gawler line

- The Gawler rail line will be partially closed between Adelaide and Mawson Lakes
- Substitute buses will pick up and set down at Stop D North Terrace outside the InterContinental Adelaide
- Train services between Mawson Lakes and Gawler Central will operate as normal

Outer Harbor and Grange lines

- Substitute buses will pick up and set down at Stop W1 North Terrace, opposite the Adelaide Railway Station
- Signs are in place at train stations and substitute bus stops.

Information will also be available:

- On the [Adelaide Metro](#) website
- On the Adelaide Metro InfoLine 1300 311 108
- On the free metroMATE app for [Apple](#) or [Android](#)
- On flyers distributed to affected trains services
- Via Adelaide Metro social media sites
- Via SMS and email alerts for registered passengers
- From Adelaide Metro Info Teams who will communicate directly with passengers at the Adelaide Railway Station and other key stations.

Background

The \$238 million State and Commonwealth project is separating the freight and passenger rail lines, and removing three level crossings at Park Terrace, Gibson and East streets.

The project is supporting 212 jobs a year during construction.

As well as removing three level crossings, this upgrade will also improve freight efficiency and safety through Adelaide.

Currently freight trains give way to passenger services at this railway junction, holding up valuable freight.

Once these works are complete, Outer Harbor and Grange trains will no longer need to slow down at these level crossings and the requirement for trains to give way to one another will also be removed, improving the travel times for all services.

Upgrading ARTC tracks and signalling will allow for increased train speeds, improved reliability and reduced delays.

The Torrens Rail Junction Project will also allow for longer freight trains to run between Adelaide and Melbourne increasing capacity by up to 20 per cent.

More productive trains means greater payloads, getting goods to market quicker, less congestion for motorists and improved road safety, as well as cutting transport costs.

Quotes attributable to Transport and Infrastructure Minister Stephen Mullighan

We regret the further impact to passengers on the Gawler, Outer Harbor and Grange lines.

This shutdown will see construction works being performed around the clock to get the job done quickly and safely in this window where no trains will be running.

By closing sections of track for an extended period we can deliver more work, faster and importantly in a safer environment for track workers.

Collaboration between ARTC and the State Government sees an improved long-term outcome further maximising an increase in productivity on the Melbourne – Adelaide – Perth rail line which is great news for all South Australians.

We'd like to thank the community and patrons of the Gawler and Outer Harbor/Grange lines for their patience while these important works are delivered.

While there will be an impact on passengers, the benefits once this project is completed will be immense – improved travel times, reliability and safety, less congestion and no more frustrating delays for motorists at three level crossings.

This project has already provided significant benefits for road users with the removal of the level crossing at Park Terrace which stopped traffic for more than two hours every day on average.

Taking away the need for freight trains to give way to passenger trains will improve freight efficiency and deliver more reliable and quicker passenger services.

Removing three level crossings will reduce congestion for the more than 50,000 vehicles which use these crossings every day.

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