

LinQed



Artist impression of a tram in Surfers Paradise

News from the Gold Coast light rail

Welcome to the special testing and commissioning edition of LinQed.

Moving into testing and commissioning marks a major milestone for the Gold Coast light rail and will see overhead electrical wires going live and trams moving about as we test equipment and train our drivers.

In this edition you will find details about what testing and commissioning is and what it means for the Gold Coast community, plus all the information you will need to be safe

around the trams. We also feature details of new traffic signs you can expect to see being rolled out on the Gold Coast and how pedestrians and others can safely interact with the Gold Coast light rail system.

You can keep up-to-date with the progress of construction through the website at www.goldlinq.com.au or call the project hotline 1800 967 377*.

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Update on progress...

Light rail coming to life with the powering up of overhead wires

To ensure the Gold Coast light rail system is operating safely prior to passenger services commencing the system goes through a rigorous testing program.

The first element tested is the electrical equipment, where overhead wires become live with electricity. The overhead wires, which are situated at a safe height from street level, should be treated as normal power poles and wires. It is safe to cross at designated crossings under the wires on foot, bikes or in vehicles. Oversized loads may require a permit.

Look up and see the danger!

The overhead wires are approximately 5.8 metres above road level and carry 750 volts of electricity which is equivalent to four times the amount supplied to your home or business. The live wires are dangerous and should always be treated with extreme caution. It is important nothing comes within two metres of the wires and you should consider the safety of the following activities close to the overhead wires:

- Clearing vegetation such as hedge and tree trimming.
- Activities including kicking footballs, flying kites or remote controlled aircraft.



Overhead wires being installed at the Depot

- Transporting high loads such as moving home contents or furniture around the light rail corridor.
- Operating machinery including excavators, front-end loaders, forklifts and cranes.

With testing and commissioning underway the overhead wires should be treated as live at all times.

In an emergency...

In case of an emergency such as fallen wires or a damaged pole please call 000 and stay away.

Fallen wires are extremely dangerous and can cause death. If something gets stuck in the wires do not try and retrieve it.

Testing for your safety is underway

The Gold Coast light rail system is now being tested to ensure the system is safe and operating properly.

During this phase everything will be tested from the electrical power supply, traffic light signalling and ticketing machines to the tram door buttons, information screens at stations and on board the trams.

Testing begins with the powering up of the overhead wires and traction power substations (TPS). Once powered, overhead wires are dangerous and should be treated with extreme caution. Look up and see the danger!

The next phase will include the testing of traffic signals and the initial running of the trams. Trams will begin travelling slowly to ensure all signals are working. This will help motorists

and pedestrians get used to seeing trams running along the light rail corridor.

The trams will later be tested at operating speed. Once all testing is complete the system will be certified as safe for passenger services.

Testing rollout:

- There are six TPS along the 13-kilometre light rail corridor. Powering up of TPS at the Depot and the intersection of Queen Street and Nerang Street is the first step in testing the light rail system before passenger services commence.
- Powering up the overhead wires will be the next stage.
- Trams will then begin slowly moving along the system followed by testing at operational speeds up to 70 kilometres per hour.



A traction power substation

- Testing will commence between the light rail Depot near Wardoo Street and Southport Station at the corner of Scarborough Street and Nerang Street before trams start moving throughout the whole corridor.

In addition to seeing trams on the streets during the testing and commissioning phase, new traffic signs are being introduced across the city.

These signs indicate how motorists, cyclists and pedestrians behave around the trams and tram tracks. These signs are new to Queensland and will be included in Queensland Transport license tests. You can expect to see these signs and new traffic signals along the light rail corridor and it is important to understand what they mean and follow the given direction.

- It's important to obey all signs, signals and road rules.
- Remember U-Turns are prohibited at all intersections unless signed.



In areas where trams are able to travel but certain other vehicle access is restricted you can expect to see this sign.



You can expect to see this sign in areas where trams are able to travel but vehicle access is restricted.



Vehicles should not stop on tram tracks or within the hazard zone. Look out for this sign across the corridor.



Vehicles should not queue across tracks as a tram may approach. Look out for this sign at intersections where there is yellow cross-hatching marked on the road surface.



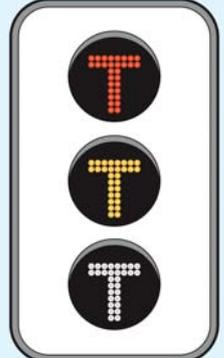
Cyclists should be aware of tram tracks at intersections and other areas. The groove in the tram tracks may cause a bicycle's wheel to become stuck if the cyclist rides parallel to the tracks. Cyclists can safely cross tram tracks by approaching at right angles.



Only trams are permitted in these zones and motorists, pedestrians and cyclists must not proceed. Look out for this sign where tram tracks travel near vehicles.



These signs will be in place at different crossing points with the tram tracks to let people know there may be trams moving in the vicinity.



T traffic lights are for trams only. If you see a red 'T' you don't have to stop, this is instructing the tram to stop. A white 'T' is instructing the tram to go. If you see a white 'T' don't try to cross the intersection and wait for the green arrow.

Take the time and stay alert

Trams are designed to be quiet and may not be heard against everyday background noise in the city.

Pedestrians will need to stay alert around the light rail corridor and not be distracted by mobile phones or headphones. Tram drivers will sound a bell if they see pedestrians putting themselves in danger so listen out for the 'ding-ding'.

Trams are fitted with emergency brakes, however applying these will mean that passengers on-board the trams may get a jolt, similar to when you brake in a car. It is important to always cross at designated pedestrian crossings and look both ways before crossing the road and light rail tracks.

Trams will begin testing on track in Southport



Tips for cycling near tram tracks

There will be facilities in close proximity to each station for bikes to be secured, however bikes cannot be taken on the tram. When travelling near the system please take the time and stay alert.

- Always cross the tracks at right angles.
- Never ride along the tracks.
- Prepare to cross the tracks well in advance and approach at right angles.
- When travelling on the roads, remember to use correct hand signals to make other road users aware of your intentions.



Catching the tram

To help passengers reach stations safely there will be pedestrian crossing points in place. Those hopping on and off the system will need to follow the signs and remember, don't get distracted.

Passengers travelling on the Gold Coast light rail will need a ticket before getting on the tram.

Ticketing and prices for the Gold Coast light rail will be managed by TransLink. Tickets and go cards can be purchased

at the station and must be validated on the platform before you get onto the tram. Ensure you touch on before your journey and touch off at the end of your journey if using your go card.

Light rail will cost the same price as a bus and will be based on TransLink's South East Queensland two zone fare structure.

For more information on ticketing visit translink.com.au or call 13 12 30.

Tracks are for trams...

Unlike other systems, the Gold Coast light rail has been designed so that no motor vehicles will travel along the tracks. Just remember that tracks are for trams. Motor vehicles should only drive over the tracks when directed at intersections by the traffic lights.



Gold Coast Light Rail in *REAL TIME* Follow us on twitter @gclightrail



Keep up-to-date with the progress of Queensland's first contemporary light rail at www.goldline.com.au or call the project on 1800 967 377*

*Free call within Australia. Call charges may apply from mobile phones and payphones.



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