Light Rail Mail Tuesday 3 July 2012

goldlinq
Gold Coast Light Rail

The regular newsletter is our way of keeping you informed about what's happening with the Gold Coast light rail.

Image: Drainage pipes ready for installation in Surfers Paradise.

Works kick-off in Surfers Paradise

Vital construction work to relocate underground services and upgrade stormwater drainage is now underway in Surfers Paradise at the intersection of Ferny Avenue (Gold Coast Highway) and Surfers Paradise Boulevard.

To undertake this work the Ferny Avenue and Surfers Paradise Boulevard intersection will remain closed for another four weeks. For more information on traffic changes click here.

The critical work is needed to upgrade the area's underground services to prepare for construction of the Gold Coast light rail system and will begin with extensive drainage work, which requires the width of the road network while three 450 diameter pipes are installed to future proof Gold Coast city drainage services.

"Stakeholders directly adjacent to the area have been contacted and I encourage people to continue to support businesses along the corridor during construction," GoldLinQ CEO Phil Mumford said.

Works will be halted in the area during the GC600 motor racing event. Night works will be carried out throughout Surfers Paradise by GoldLinQ's design and construction partners McConnell Dowell and Bombardier Transportation to ensure the construction program stays on-track. Construction is anticipated to commence between View and Cavill Avenues in late July 2012.

Piling starts for Smith Street light rail bridge

Piling work for the Gold Coast light rail project has now commenced with construction advancing on the 800-metre long viaduct linking Parklands Drive to the light rail Depot and Queen Street in Southport.

A viaduct is a bridge consisting of a series of spans or arches supported by piers and used to carry a road or railroad over a valley.

A total of 168 piles will support the viaduct, which is set to reach up to 13 metres in height, allowing light rail vehicles to travel over the Smith Street Motorway and above Loders Creek.

Piles are used to support bridge piers by reaching a strong layer of soil or rock in areas where the surface lacks the strength to support a certain structure.

Piling will be used during the construction of five bridges across the [13-kilometre Stage One route](#):

• The Smith Street viaduct.
• A shared pedestrian and cycle bridge across the Nerang River to the east of Sundale Bridge.
• A light rail vehicle bridge across the Nerang River immediately west of Sundale Bridge.
• Macintosh Island north and south bridges.

Construction of the light rail Depot facility is also advancing with earthworks and underground service relocations now underway.

The Depot will house operations staff when services commence and be used as a maintenance, storage and cleaning facility for the system's 14 [Bombardier Flexity 2](#) trams, which were designed by Queenslanders specifically for the Gold Coast.

Get involved

Could you be the 'Voice of the Tram?'

[GoldLinQ](#) has teamed up with radio station [102.9 Hot Tomato](#) to give Gold Coasters the chance to become the 'Voice of the Tram,' delivering station messages and passenger information when services commence in 2014.

The search is on to find a unique voice for the light rail with contestants asked to record a number of messages including "Please stand clear, this tram is now ready to depart" and "the next station is Cavill Avenue, exit here for Surfers Paradise, shopping, the beach, Q1, bars and restaurants."

Entries are now open at [myGC.com.au](#) and applicants can tune in to The Mal & Luke Show on 102.9 Hot Tomato each Friday

News in brief

In the community

The GoldLinQ consortium is committed to minimising disruption during construction and is actively engaging with businesses, residents and community organisations including local schools.

This provided a unique opportunity when [work commenced along Scarborough Street](#) in the Southport CBD in June.

With medium strips and vegetation in the centre of the street being removed, the Gold Coast light rail team were able to arrange for a number of Agapanthus trees to be delivered to [Southport State School](#).

Message from the project team

Community Grants

GoldLinQ is committed to helping improve the future of the Gold Coast and is dedicated to playing an active role in the local community during construction.

As part of this commitment GoldLinQ Design and Construction partners, [McConnell Dowell Constructors Pty Ltd](#) and [Bombardier Transportation](#), are set to launch the Gold Coast light rail Community Grants program.

The program aims to give back to the Gold Coast by supporting local groups and projects that will deliver lasting community benefit in the areas of:

• Healthy and active living
• Community
• Safety

afternoon to hear some of the entries.

Five finalists will receive $200 to spend at [Hilton's Salt Grill Restaurant](#) and the winner will also receive a mini-mal surfboard, which they will be able to take on-board the tram in 2014 while listening to their own voice.

The major winner of 'Voice of the Tram' will be announced during the Mal & Luke show on Friday 10 August so get your entry in now by [clicking here](#).

School groundsman Cec Penny received the plants (see photo) which will be replanted by students and staff at the school.

GoldLinQ will continue to provide opportunities for students to be involved in the project as part of the Schools and Education Program.

• Youth
• Environment
• Public transport

Funding assistance up to $2,000 per applicant will be available during three funding rounds to occur between late 2012 and late 2013.

Submissions for the first round of funding will open in coming weeks. To be considered applicants will be required to complete a form based on the criteria that will be published online at www.goldlinq.com.au.