

Hon Stephen Mullighan MP Minister for Transport and Infrastructure

Friday, 21 July, 2017

Contract awarded for East End tram extension

Night works for the City Tram Extension Project will begin this weekend, after the major contract was awarded to Downer York Joint Venture - a consortia consisting of Downer EDI Works and South Australian company, York Civil.

Night works to locate underground services and utilities along North Terrace and King William Road will begin on Sunday night, along with geotechnical investigations.

The project will deliver four new stops - one on King William Road servicing the Festival Plaza precinct and three new stops along North Terrace servicing the museum and library precinct, universities and the East End.

After extensive design, planning and engineering advice, the State Government will invest an additional \$10 million into the project, bringing the total project cost to \$80 million, including tram purchases.

The extra investment will increase the scope of the project, providing for a major rebuild of the King William Road/North Terrace intersection and providing additional turning movements for tram services to accommodate future stages of an extended tram network.

In addition, the tram track along King William Road will be extended a further 100 metres north than originally proposed, which will result in improved and safe disability access and enhanced pedestrian connectivity between the Riverbank Precinct and Anzac Walk.

The additional funding is part of a major construction blitz which will involve more night-time and weekend work to minimise the impacts to peak hour and daytime traffic, and reduce disruptions to businesses and tram services.

Given the number of major events occurring in and around the CBD, the South Australian Government's priority will be to minimise the disruptions along North Terrace and King William Road.

This will be achieved by adopting an intense program of works to deliver the project in the shortest possible time-frame by taking advantage of working 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in school holiday periods at times when road traffic is at its quietest.

Major works on the intersection of North Terrace and King William Road have been scheduled for early January 2018, to minimise the impact to major events and traffic flow in and around the CBD, including the important Christmas trading period and Boxing Day sales.

Background

The extension will feature four new stops and provide a frequent and reliable link between the Riverbank's educational, cultural, entertainment, and health and biomedical precincts.

More than 40,000 students and staff who study or work at University of Adelaide and UniSA will benefit from the extension, providing a vital transport link between east and west campuses.

This extension will also provide frequent services between the East End and the new Royal Adelaide Hospital, SAHMRI, Adelaide Railway Station, Adelaide Convention Centre and the new Adelaide Festival Plaza.

Works are scheduled to be completed early 2018, weather permitting.

Further information is available at the [City Tram Extension](#) project website.

Quotes attributable to Transport and Infrastructure Minister Stephen Mullighan

We're building a bigger tram network which will cater for thousands more passengers travelling around our city.

The former Liberal Government did not order a single new tram in its time in office. Heritage H-class trams were used on a neglected network which only travelled between Glenelg and Victoria Square.

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

This \$80 million investment will kick start the first stage of our ambitious tram expansion project that will connect north, south, east and west, easing city congestion and reducing our carbon footprint.

It is also an investment in South Australian jobs – we are ensuring as many local jobs and contractors as possible are utilised during the project with 90% of all labour hours to be undertaken by South Australians.

There will be impacts on our city during construction, but the biggest impact will be once the project is finished – delivering another transport option to thousands of people who work, visit or study every day in the East End of our city.

Downer York Joint Venture have a demonstrated track record in successfully completing numerous similar projects within program and budget.