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Light Rail Mail

Tuesday 4 December 2012



Reliable and accessible transport for businesses, shoppers and residents.

Launch of Love Our City eNews - Love Your Local

As part of the Love Our City campaign, the Gold Coast light rail team is proud to announce the launch of Love Our City eNews - Love Your Local.

If you love staying, playing, eating and shopping on the Gold Coast and having access to exclusive specials, coupons and news, Love Your Local is for you.

To sign up please email information@goldlinq.com.au

Message from the CEO

An end of year message from GoldLinQ CEO Phil Mumford

As 2012 quickly draws to a close, I would like to wish our Gold Coast light rail community a happy and safe holiday season.

It is difficult to believe the immense progress the light rail has experienced since GoldLinQ took over the Stage One corridor in January. We consider ourselves extremely lucky to work in an amazing community on the Gold Coast, whose residents have been extremely understanding of the challenges faced when constructing a city-changing project such as this.

We are acutely aware of our visibility, our potential impact and our commitment to minimising disruption during construction. GoldLinQ has three key priorities: safety, delivery and community.

We take the challenge of balancing these priorities seriously, which has allowed us to progress over the past twelve months.

Future-proofing the city's key services was a major focus for 2012. The Gold Coast is Australia's sixth largest city with a history spanning back to the 19th Century. Since its boom in the 1960s, our city has grown to accommodate hundreds of thousands of new residents and our essential services grew in parallel. For the light rail project, this means we have been charged with updating and relocating many of these services, like sewerage, telephone,

electricity, water and gas connections along the new corridor

Mid-2012 saw the first rail delivery and track laying, one of the biggest milestones for the project so far. Track is now being laid in the Southport, Surfers Paradise and Broadbeach precincts.

Another significant milestone for 2012 was the arrival of the piling barge Leanora on the Nerang River, with piling works for the Light Rail Vehicle (LRV) bridge commencing in November. Our other bridge across Smith Street has taken shape. The piles and their headstocks (supports for the carriageway) are now visible from the Motorway.

All this progress would not be possible without the support of the community where we work and we extend our thanks to you for your ongoing patience, trust and enthusiasm during construction.

As many of you will still be enjoying the holiday season in January, our next edition of Light Rail Mail will be sent out on 5 February 2013.

We trust you all will have a happy and safe holiday and New Year. We look forward to working with you in delivering Gold Coast's world-class public transport system in the coming year and into 2014.

Season's greetings,
Phil Mumford



News in brief

Best job on the Gold Coast light rail project

Making her way up the beautiful Nerang River and settling into her latest job, the newest member of the Gold Coast light rail team is the envy of us all. She enjoys world-class scenic views, beautiful ocean breezes, the famous Gold Coast sun and open skies.

You won't ever see Leanora around the office or in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and she won't be laying track or directing traffic. But just ask any of the staff on the project, she is crucial to our progress and her arrival has marked a significant milestone for the Gold Coast light



Love Learning

GoldLinQ welcomes school students onto project as part of Love Learning

As part of its Love Learning program, GoldLinQ hosted its first school excursion group when 25 Year 10 students arrived at the Gold Coast light rail Visitor Centre in Surfers Paradise for an educational tour last month.

The inquisitive Centenary State High School economics students toured the project's construction site and Visitor Centre, learning about the challenges of building large public infrastructure in heavily populated areas.



Construction Milestone

High Street Intersection: around the clock non-stop

The Gold Coast light rail team continues to achieve project milestones with the first set of tracks now laid across a busy Gold Coast intersection. The Construction team worked around the clock for 60 hours, not once but twice, to prepare and lay tracks in the busy High and Nerang Street intersection last month, which sees 55,000 cars cross each day.

The work, which partially closed the intersection, included excavation, underground services work and track laying. The long haul effort was planned to minimise disruption to the surrounding community and to take

rail.

'Leanora 29228QD' is the Gold Coast light rail's piling barge and she arrived in the Nerang river last month to assist in the construction of the Light Rail Vehicle (LRV) and pedestrian and cycle bridges that will run parallel to the existing Gold Coast (Sundale) Bridge.

At 55 metres long, 17 metres wide and a whopping 250-tonne capacity, a highly coordinated and precise operation was successfully executed by GoldLinQ marine contractors Brady Marine and Civil to get her in position.

Requiring the harmonisation of three tug boats, perfect timing of low tide and filling her with ballast to make her ride extremely low in the water, the operation saw Leanora pass safely under the Gold Coast bridge from the eastern side to the western side, amazing onlookers and motorists alike.

Leanora boasts a fully equipped office on board and a crane that rises 36 metres above the super structure. During her stay in the Gold Coast waters, Leonora will drive 26 piles into the river with an average of 32-metre span between each pier over the 370-metre length of the bridge.

Upon completion of the project, the LRV bridge will support 14 Bombardier Flexity 2 trams, weighing 60.4 metric tonnes each, making over 124 trips each day.

Being Queensland's first contemporary light rail and one of only three in Australia, the construction of the Gold Coast light rail provides a unique educational opportunity for Queensland students.

The students were encouraged to explore impact mitigation strategies, the types of construction involved as well as the long-term benefits of the \$1 billion project, including sustainability, reduced pressure on existing transport networks and economic benefits to the Gold Coast region from project staff, who accompanied them on their tour.

The Love Learning program partners the project with schools and other education institutions to encourage using the light rail and its construction as a learning tool and to promote knowledge transfer, innovations and enhance students' skills.

Design and Construction Joint Venture Project Director, Simon Bradbury said "A core aim of the program is for as many students as possible to get first-hand experience in all the facets of the Gold Coast light rail.

"Love Learning is about allowing students to see up-close how we do things in order to unlock the learning potential from such a city-changing project," said Mr Bradbury.

If your school would like to visit the Gold Coast light rail as part of Love Learning, please visit www.goldlinq.com.au or contact our Communications and Stakeholder Engagement team on 1800 967 377 or by emailing information@goldlinq.com.au.

advantage of the quieter weekend traffic period.

Crews worked from 6.30pm Friday to 5am Monday on the weekends of 16 to 19 November and 23 to 26 November to ensure the intersection was re-opened to motorists by 6am on the Mondays following.

60 hours of straight work left our crews with big appetites and as part of the Love Our City campaign, GoldLinQ purchased meals from the surrounding Southport businesses as well as providing accommodation at a local motel.

The crew were eager for the challenge and are very proud of the mammoth effort which included 12 sunrises and sunsets in total. Required works were completed successfully, with tracks now laid across the intersection.

Level 2, 7 Bay Street, Southport, QLD 4215, Australia.

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