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Light Rail Mail

Tuesday 4 February 2014



Gold Coast light rail going for top sustainability rating

The Gold Coast light rail will soon be Australia's first public transport project and the third project nation-wide to receive an [Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia](#) (ISCA) rating.

[ISCA's Infrastructure Sustainability \(IS\) rating](#) is the only comprehensive rating scheme in Australia for evaluating a project's sustainability from the design phase, during construction and through to operations.

Gold Coast light rail Design and Construction Joint Venture Project Director, Simon Bradbury, explains that sustainability means a lot more than just being environmentally friendly.

"Sustainability is about getting more bang for your buck by evaluating every decision on environmental, community and economic advantage. It's about challenging the status quo and instilling a culture of innovation - which has proved to be infectious on the Gold Coast light rail project."

Having notched up some innovative sustainability achievements over the course of construction, the Gold Coast light rail project is aiming for an IS rating of "Excellent."

"We have had some great successes, such as design changes to the [Depot](#), relocation of osprey and [tussock frogs](#), as well as donating more than [5,000 tonnes](#) of sand from excavations to City of Gold Coast beaches which were eroded by severe weather in early 2013," Mr Bradbury said.

At the Depot in Southport, a retired landfill site, the Gold Coast light rail team altered the track design which meant less landfill had to be excavated. This saw 68,200 tonnes less waste removed and 40% less concrete & steel required.

“Sustainability savings like these have become a way of life on the project with team members always looking for ways to reduce costs, make less impact and get the best outcome for the community,” Mr Bradbury said.



North and south now connected



More overhead wires live



A common question answered

Golden rail making history

GoldLinQ has reached a historic milestone with the final piece of track laid for Stage one of the Gold Coast light rail project.

On Friday 20 December 2013, the final pour took place to encase the [‘golden rail’](#) and complete the connection between the north and south of the city’s new light rail system.

To celebrate the historic event the last remaining piece of rail was coated in gold for the occasion. GoldLinQ was joined by dignitaries including Federal Member for Moncrieff Stephen Ciobo and the acting Mayor Councillor Donna Gates.

With the installation of the ‘golden rail’ the 13-kilometre system is now fully connected from Gold Coast University Hospital to Broadbeach South Station.

Over the last 18 months of construction the team have laid a

Powering up and tram movements over the Nerang River

Works on the Gold Coast light rail have ramped up in readiness for the [first tram to cross the Nerang River](#) from Southport to Surfers Paradise this month.

In Surfers Paradise overhead wires are now live from Nerang River to Staghorn Avenue and the traction power substation at Ferny Avenue intersection is powered up.

Initially the tram will travel slowly to test traffic signals and so that motorists and pedestrians get used to seeing trams running along this section of the light rail corridor.

Remember, [safety](#) is a shared responsibility. When you are around the Gold Coast light rail always:

- Look up and see the danger, wires are electrified.
- Obey all signs, signals and road rules.
- Tracks are for trams.

How will I catch the trams when operations commence in 2014?

Catching the Gold Coast light rail will be easy with TransLink’s [go card](#). With big discounts on offer by using a [go card](#), this should be the ticket of choice for all customers.

Simply touch on at the reader on the platform at the beginning of your journey and then touch off again at the end when you disembark. Your fare will be automatically deducted from your card balance.

Passengers can catch the tram using their [go card](#) from any of the [16 stations](#) along the light rail route. Single use paper tickets will also be available for once off travel.

There is no premium fare to ride the light rail, fares are tied to the standard TransLink fare zone network. The same fare applicable on a bus is applicable on the tram. You will pay no more than the cost of a [two zone fare](#) to ride Stage one of the light rail end to end.

total of 53,572 lineal metres of single track weighing 2,800 tonnes, crossed through 52 intersections with 3,509 track welds and weighing 2800 tonnes.

The project is now a step closer to delivering this world-class public transport network for the Gold Coast.

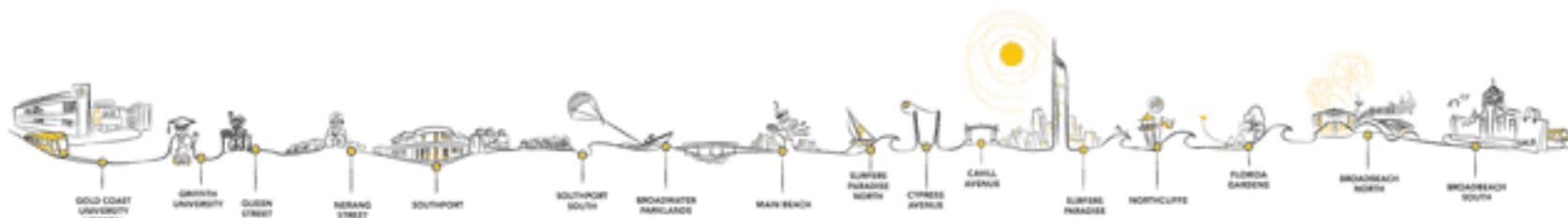
- Always use designated pedestrian crossings.
- Stay alert and take the time.

For further safety information or to request a safety briefing please visit www.goldlink.com.au/testing

Ticketing and pricing is managed by [TransLink](#).

The light rail network has been designed for full bus to light rail connectivity at key locations, and the best news is that your ticket covers both modes within the same zones, at no extra cost.

For full details on discounts, benefits and zone fares, please check out the TransLink [website](#) or call directly on 13 12 30.



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