



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

## Light rail helps frogs find a new home

An army of protected Tusked Frogs living in a pond at a Surfers Paradise unit complex have been rescued thanks to the Gold Coast light rail team.

GoldLinQ's design and construction partners [McConnell Dowell](#) and [Bombardier Transportation](#) were surprised when the environment team found the frogs as they are not often found living this close to the beach.

Project Director Simon Bradbury said the Tusked Frogs had made a pond in [Golden Gate](#) their home and we suspect they were brought into the site with landscaping materials.

"To keep the frogs safe we thoroughly planned their relocation and have funded a support program for them at the [Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary](#)," Mr Bradbury said.

"Initially we thought only five or six would be found, however during the rescue operation we were astonished to discover an army of 75 frogs."

Under the guidance of a Fauna Spotter Catcher the relocation took three days. The team carefully drained the pond, retrieving the frogs from the sediment. They also spent time searching through the nearby bushes making sure every

frog was retrieved. The frogs will spend a few weeks in quarantine before joining a frog display at the sanctuary and other wildlife centres around Australia.

[Griffith University's Professor Jean-Marc Hero](#), a well known frog expert, commended the project for taking care of the Tusked Frogs as they have largely disappeared from the coastal region in recent years. They are also special as one of the few frog species in Australia where males are larger than females.

This is the second significant environmental relocation to be undertaken by the Gold Coast light rail project team following the successful relocation of the [Osprey](#) nest to a new location near the Sundale Bridge last year.



News in brief



More news in brief



Message from the project team

## Light rail has arrived in Surfers Paradise

The Gold Coast light rail is coming to life in the heart of the Gold Coast's glitter precinct with the project team delivering on time the reopening of a key section of [Surfers Paradise Boulevard](#).

GoldLinQ commenced block closure construction along the boulevard in February 2013 thereby minimising the length of construction disruption to traders and visitors.

To mark this milestone for both the project and the local community, GoldLinQ supported the [Surfers Paradise Alliance](#) in hosting a street party. Traders celebrated on the tracks between Elkhorn Avenue and Cavill Avenue with free live music, markets and fashion parades.

CEO of the Surfers Paradise Alliance Mike Winlaw thanked GoldLinQ for facilitating the use of the tracks for the celebration.

"Traders along the Boulevard are very pleased the road has reopened and

## Construction milestones keep on coming

Construction on the Gold Coast light rail project continues to hit key milestones on the journey to operations commencing in mid 2014.

Late last month the project notched up a major milestone with more than 50 percent rail completion. This means crews have laid more than six and a half kilometres of rail, equal to 13 Sydney Harbour Bridges laid end to end. The milestone marks a turning point for the project, with less than half of all rail installation left to be complete.

Across the 13km corridor eight of the stations are in varying stages of construction, that's half of the 16 stations being built simultaneously.

In Southport, the tram Depot has undergone a dramatic transformation with the tram maintenance building nearing completion and overhead lines going up around the stabling yard.

In Broadbeach, works to cross one of

## Recognition for light rail training

[McConnell Dowell](#), GoldLinQ's design and construction partner, is one of three finalists for the [Department of Education, Training and Employment's Training Employer of the Year - South East Region](#).

The project's dedicated construction and rail trainee program has underpinned recent up-skilling opportunities within the local area, equipping more than 100 trainees with valuable and sought after qualifications and industry experience.

The winner will be announced on Friday 26 July and will go on to represent the region at the state finals.

## A world-class project leading the way

Queensland's first contemporary light rail system is less than a year away from operations and the project is being keenly watched on the national and international stage.

are now looking forward to a strong June school holiday trading period”, said Mr Winlaw.

Hundreds of people gathered for the celebrations and it was a great opportunity for the community to see the completed kerb-to-kerb section of the light rail system in Surfers Paradise.

The project is now focused on delivering the kerb-to-kerb construction works along the boulevard between Cavill Avenue and Clifford Street, with the aim to reopen all of Surfers Paradise Boulevard in time for Christmas.

the busiest intersections on the Gold Coast, Hooker Boulevard and the Gold Coast Highway, are complete. These works include the most complex upgrade of underground services to be undertaken on the project.

A [World Cities Top 100 infrastructure project](#), the Gold Coast light rail project has hosted information sessions with teams from the [Sunshine Coast](#), ACT Government, Transport for NSW, [Perth Light Rail \(MAX\)](#), Abu Dhabi Department of Transport, as well as Mayor Wayne Wright from City of New Westminster, Canada.

All visitors have been impressed by the quality of the work being undertaken on the Gold Coast and have taken away valuable information for other light rail projects around the world.



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

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