METRONEWS

YANCHEP RAIL EXTENSION PROJECT UPDATE August 2020

Early works
Site preparations and establishment

Bulldozer working in the rail corridor

With works significantly progressing, the Yanchep Rail Extension is well on its way to welcoming passengers in 2022. In just six months, the rail corridor from Butler Station to Pipidinny Road and both sites for the future Alkimos and Eglinton stations have been fully cleared.

The site crew from RJ Vincent have been working on-site alongside Public Transport Authority staff to ensure timely delivery of works while strictly adhering to environmental requirements. Along the way, a golf buggy and a selection of car parts have been removed from the rail corridor which is now also completely fenced.

Bulk earthworks began in May, creating channels in sand dunes and the start of digging the trench for the rail line. More than 270,000m^3 of fill (sand, rock and limestone) has been moved already, which equates to about 110 Olympic size swimming pools or 470,000 tonnes.

Once the site preparations are complete, the major contractor NEWest Alliance will begin earthworks to bring the corridor to its final rail formation level, to reduce noise and visual impact for residents.

As works continue to progress, the community can expect to see a greater on-ground presence of construction crews with the project's main site office to be established near Butler Station. There will be a number of smaller compounds and site offices along the alignment.

Machinery busy at work

Part 2 receives green light… and three green bridges

As site preparation works steam ahead, the project reached another important milestone in May as Part 2 received Federal Government approval, having received State Government approval earlier this year.

The 7.2km area stretching from north of Eglinton to north of Yanchep includes the Ningana Bushland, an area that will have extra controls in place from the project to reduce potential construction impacts.

The State Government approval comes with a range of conditions that the project will have to meet, including building three green bridges in the Ningana Bush Forever region.

The green bridges will be only the second time they have been used in Perth, and will give animals safe places to cross the rail.

Each bridge will be a minimum of 30m wide, and span approximately 22m.

Quick Stat:

While Perth has a number of active fauna underpasses, Perth's only existing green bridge (or fauna overpass) is located on the Tonkin Highway near Maralla Road in Ellenbrook.

A look into the future

In exciting news, the project has another milestone to celebrate with all design packages reaching the 15 per cent completion and are currently going through the required review process.

Transport Minister Rita Saffioti stated she was delighted to announce the design for the Yanchep Rail Extension had reached a significant project accomplishment.

"The design includes details of the new stations which take into account the needs of rail passengers, as well as integrating with the planned future precincts" she said.

The Alkimos Station design is particularly noteworthy for its integration into the future Alkimos Central Precinct.

The design, created in partnership with Development WA, details a cut and cover construction technique and includes parking facilities, bus interchanges, passenger amenities and cycling facilities to cater for patrons.

Throughout the design process, the team will seek input from key stakeholders including the City of Wanneroo and project reference groups including the Community Reference Group, METRONET Noongar Reference Group and METRONET Access and Inclusion Reference Group.

Alkimos Station internal view

Eglinton Station external view

Yanchep Station aerial view

NEWest snags footy great

The trademark dreadlocks from his days as an elite Australian Rules football player are gone, but Chance Bateman remains committed to championing opportunities for Aboriginal people and he's keen to pursue this in his new job as the NEWest Alliance's Aboriginal Participation Coordinator.

Originally from York in Western Australia, it's been eight years since Chance returned home to end his playing days at the Perth Football Club. Previously, he was in Melbourne where he forged a decorated 177-game career at the Hawthorn Football Club. Highlights included winning the 2008 AFL Premiership, being the club's first Aboriginal player to reach 100 games and being the first Aboriginal player to be awarded the club's life membership.

Since returning to Perth, Chance has worked for a number of companies in Aboriginal engagement and community relations roles, but he was never far from his football roots. He worked for a couple of years at the Wirrpanda Foundation, focussing on developing employment pathways and mentoring Aboriginal youth, and most recently was the Forwards' Development Coach and Indigenous Players' Mentor at the West Coast Eagles.

"Football has been a big part of my life and I've always looked to use my profile to be a role model and have a positive impact on the lives and careers of Aboriginal people," he said.

"The Yanchep Rail Extension and Thornlie-Cockburn Link are exciting projects and there is a lot of scope for Aboriginal companies and people to be involved. There are a range of skills and talents that the projects need and we have Aboriginal businesses and people wanting to be a part of it."

Find us in your Facebook feed

Our Facebook community group recently welcomed its thousandth member! Thanks to every member of the community that has joined the group to keep up to date with the project!

For those not in the group, it has been designed to keep the local community updated on project milestones, construction impacts, what's happening in the local area and general project updates. It's a forum for interaction, discussion, commentary and questions between the community and METRONET, and sharing progress photos.

To find us, simply search 'METRONET Yanchep Rail Extension community group' in the Facebook search bar or type this URL into your browser: *www.facebook.com/groups/yancheprailextension/*

MORE INFORMATION

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