

Question on Notice

No. 1336

Asked on 27 October 2021

MR S MINNIKIN ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the government's recent announcement about the Rollingstock Expansion Project—

Will the Minister now provide an answer to Question on Notice No. 1089 of 2021 about project milestones?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Chatsworth for the question.

In October 2021, the Palaszczuk Government announced a \$7.1 billion plan to build 65 new trains and related manufacturing and maintenance infrastructure in Queensland. As the State's single largest train infrastructure investment, the Queensland Train Manufacturing Program will help support the State's economy and bolster Queensland as a leader in rail manufacturing with long-term jobs and skills development.

The Queensland Train Manufacturing Program will deliver locally built trains that meet local requirements, including disability access requirements. This investment is an extension of the government's \$600 million election commitment to build 20 new trains at a purpose-built manufacturing facility in Maryborough.

Following an Expression of Interest process run by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR), train manufacturers Alstom, CAF and Downer Rail were shortlisted to manufacture the first 20 trains of the new rollingstock fleet, with an option for a further 45.

The next procurement phase, the Request for Proposal, commenced in November 2021. During this phase the shortlisted applicants—Alstom, CAF and Downer Rail—will submit information and participate in an interactive tender process to develop their proposals. This phase is expected to close in mid-2022, when the proposals will be rigorously assessed to determine the best outcome for Queensland jobs, regional economies and growth.

Major project milestones will be finalised through future phases of the tendering process. This would likely include the pace of delivering operational trains, which would inform the expected timeframe for the delivery of the twentieth train.

TMR is, however, requesting of proponents that the first tranche of the new fleet to be delivered from 2025 to support the launch of Cross River Rail. The final contract award will include an option for further train supply.

Subsequent to a land acquisition, TMR is completing onsite investigations for the proposed manufacturing facility in Torbanlea. Design and construction activities will commence from contract award.