

Question on Notice

No. 8

Asked on Wednesday, 13 February 2013

MR RUTHENBERG ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (MR EMERSON)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise as to the current expected milestone points of the Moreton Bay Rail Link project for 2013, specifically in regard to the design project, when final designs will be made available for public review and when the tender will be appointed?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Kallangur for the question.

The Moreton Bay Rail Link will deliver a new heavy rail passenger line between Petrie and Kippa-Ring, including six new stations at Kallangur, Murrumba Downs, Mango Hill, Mango Hill East (previously called Kinsellas Road Station), Rothwell and Kippa-Ring, as well as a train stabling yard in Kippa-Ring.

This long awaited rail line will provide a dedicated public transport link for one of the fastest growing areas in the country.

In June 2012, the first construction contract for the Moreton Bay Rail Link was awarded as an early works package and work began in July 2012 on a new road-over-rail bridge in Mango Hill at Kinsellas Road East.

The Kinsellas Road East bridge is the first of several rail bridges to be built as part of the link and is on track to be completed by May this year.

While work on the bridge is underway, design of the rail corridor works from Petrie to Kippa-Ring (including the track, structures and six new rail stations) is continuing.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads is undertaking a competitive tendering process to find the best design and construction team to build the link.

In October 2012, four tenderers with national and international credentials were invited to compete in a rigorous, competitive selection process for an eight week period. The tenderers submitted their proposals in mid-December last year for assessment.

In early February this year the field was narrowed from four to two tenderers with Salini, Bielby, Winslow Joint Venture and Thiess Contractors shortlisted to further develop their design and construction solutions for the project.

The two shortlisted teams will work independently to finalise the key features and layout of the dual track line, stations, bridges and associated roadworks and will submit their tender in May 2013.

It is anticipated the contract will be awarded to the successful contractor in August 2013.

Construction on the Moreton Bay Rail Link will then be underway soon after, with the new rail line scheduled for delivery by late 2016.

The final designs for the rail link will be made available to the public on the project website when the successful contractor is appointed.

This important project is funded by all three levels of government and will help reduce congestion on the road network, including the Bruce Highway.

I am pleased to say our funding partners are extremely supportive of the project and are looking forward to following its progress through 2013 and beyond.