

Question on Notice

No. 514

Asked on 25 May 2022

MR L MILLAR ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Logan and Gold Coast Faster Rail proposal—

Will the Minister advise the time it will take for a Gold Coast train to travel between Beenleigh station and Altandi station once all elements of the project are delivered?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Gregory for the question.

The Logan and Gold Coast Faster Rail (Kuraby to Beenleigh) project will complement Cross River Rail by addressing track and rail system constraints south of the tunnel, towards Logan and the Gold Coast.

Currently, all services on the Gold Coast and Beenleigh line are constrained by single tracks in each direction. This leads to a pinch point between Kuraby and Beenleigh where express services compete with all-stops services, resulting in some all-stops services being delayed so that express services can pass. These constraints also prevent more peak services from being added.

The section of the alignment between Kuraby and Beenleigh is also amongst the oldest on the SEQ network with sharp curves requiring trains to slow down to 40 km/h at certain points, slowing express and all-stops services.

By removing sharp curves from the alignment and doubling track capacity from two to four tracks, the Kuraby to Beenleigh project aims to allow the free movement of all trains on the Gold Coast and Beenleigh line so that services can run more frequently and more reliably and with greater speed.

More frequent services also means less time waiting at stations for customers. The project will improve rail station accessibility by upgrading nine stations, relieve road congestion by removing five level crossings, add around 950 park 'n' ride spaces and provide new active travel paths connecting to stations and suburbs along the 20-kilometre section of upgraded tracks.

While it is anticipated that the project will result in travel time improvements, the key benefits will be the increased frequency and reliability for services on the Gold Coast and Beenleigh line. The exact travel time savings from the project will be determined at the point of timetable redesign.