



The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP

Premier of NSW

Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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GETTING ON WITH THE JOB: CONTRACT AWARDED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF INNER WEST LIGHT RAIL EXTENSION

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell and Minister for Transport Gladys Berejiklian today announced a major step in the delivery of transport infrastructure for Sydney with the contract awarded for design and construction of the Inner West Light Rail Extension.

Following a competitive tendering process, the NSW Government will contract John Holland to build the extension, with early work to begin as soon as next month.

John Holland will be responsible for the detailed design and construction of the main infrastructure elements of the light rail extension. This contract includes the delivery of nine new light rail stations, the power and signalling systems and bridge works, which form part of the \$176 million Inner West Light Rail extension.

"Today we are getting on with the job of building infrastructure projects for the people of Sydney," Mr O'Farrell said.

"This is great news for the communities of the Inner West who can look forward to a new transport option in 2014," he said.

"Along with the South West and North West rail links, the NSW Government is on the fast track to delivering additional heavy and light rail lines for Sydneysiders.

"This light rail extension gives people another option to leave their car at home, which eases traffic congestion."

Ms Berejiklian said there will be workers on the tracks as early as next month as they begin to establish worksites and start on preparatory works such as geotechnical investigations.

Concurrently with these early works, John Holland will immediately get started on their detailed design work for the stops and other light rail infrastructure.

The NSW Government believes light rail will play an important role in the future of public transport in Sydney.

"From the outset, the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government has been working to secure the place of light rail in Sydney's transport mix," she said.

“Within our first 100 days, we incorporated light rail into the MyZone ticketing system and in our first budget, we committed funds to not only build the light rail extension from Lilyfield to Dulwich Hill but to develop a strategic plan for light rail in Sydney.

“These actions, along with the purchase of the existing light rail line in March and the awarding of this contract today make it clear the NSW Government is serious about providing an integrated and customer-focussed new transport option for Sydney.”

Ms Berejiklian said the local community will see the results of the design work later this year during a consultation period.

“In the next phase of consultation, we will seek feedback from the community on the detailed design of the stations and the streetscape elements surrounding each stop to ensure the project benefits from local knowledge,” Ms Berejiklian said.

“We’ve done the hard work on light rail where Labor failed.

“When we came to Government, we discovered that while Labor had been spending years talking about light rail, they hadn’t done any of the planning work and they had plucked figures and timeframes out of the air.

“We’ve done our homework and today we get on with the job of delivering more public transport infrastructure for the people of Sydney,” she said.

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