

Connecting SEQ 2031

An Integrated Regional Transport Plan for SEQ

Fact sheet
Rail

The draft *Connecting SEQ 2031* sets a target to double the share of trips on public transport from 7% to 14% by 2031.

The plan has a strong focus on improving the rail network to support a large increase in the volume of public transport trips.

Rail revolution

A key focus of the draft *Connecting SEQ 2031* is a transformation of how rail services operate on the existing network. With more people choosing to use our rail network, many services in peak hours are full. A revamp of the way services operate on the network will allow us to move more passengers. Delivery of the proposed Cross River Rail will provide a new rail line in the inner city, including a new river crossing and inner city stations. Cross River Rail will make it possible to transform the way rail services operate.

UrbanLink services

- high-frequency all day (at least 6am to 9pm, seven days per week with services stopping all stations)
- new trains that can carry more passengers as new trains are purchased and stations upgraded
- wider doors to make it easier to get on and off the trains
- staged roll out, with services inbound of Redbank, Strathpine, Shorncliffe, Loganlea, Ferny Grove, Manly and the Airport in Brisbane as the first stage
- in the longer term UrbanLink services will operate from Coomera to Coolangatta on the Gold Coast and Beerwah to Maroochydore on the Sunshine Coast.

ExpressLink services

- fast, express running services (competitive with a car) from outer suburbs to inner Brisbane – services will operate all day, seven days a week
- all stops until the location where UrbanLink services start, then express to inner Brisbane
- passengers can change to UrbanLink services to access destinations where the express does not stop.

CoastLink services

- express rail services from Brisbane to Gold Coast (Coolangatta) and Sunshine Coast (Maroochydore/Nambour) with travel time of about one hour
- attractive peak and off-peak frequency
- new trains to boost capacity and that can operate at higher speeds (160km/h).

New types of rail services

Light rail on the Gold Coast

A project to deliver light rail from Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct to Broadbeach is well under way, with completion scheduled for 2014. The draft *Connecting SEQ 2031* envisages light rail extending north to Helensvale and south to Coolangatta.

Light rail will provide high-frequency services to transform this busy movement corridor. Further extensions of the light rail network can be investigated as demand builds on buses, including the corridor from Broadbeach to Robina.

Brisbane Subway

An extra 100 000 people are forecast to live in inner Brisbane (CBD, Spring Hill, Milton, South Brisbane and Fortitude Valley) by 2031, bringing the total population to 288 000. Coupled with doubling of employment in the area from 209 000 in 2006 to 403 000 in 2031, this will mean about 2.4 million trips a day in the inner city (up from about one million in 2006).

The Brisbane Subway will be delivered as an entirely new network, with completely separate operations to the existing rail network. The London Underground and New York City subway are well-known examples of this style of rail operation. Features of a Brisbane subway would include:

- ultra-high frequencies, with only 90 seconds needed between services for safe operations
- closely spaced stations for higher accessibility
- ability to turn more sharply and tackle steeper grades than the present suburban rail.



Indicative 2031 passenger rail services plan



Recent improvements to the rail network

- extension of the Gold Coast line to Varsity Lakes
- Mitchelton to Keppera track duplication including two station upgrades, Salisbury to Kuraby additional track and seven station upgrades
- Ormeau to Coomera – track duplication
- Third track on the Ipswich rail line between Corinda and Darra
- Caboolture to Beerburum – new stations and additional rail line

Projects under way

- Cross River Rail planning for a new north-south inner city rail line and new inner city stations
- delivery of Gold Coast light rail from Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct to Broadbeach
- Darra to Springfield rail line
- Keppera to Ferny Grove track duplication and station upgrade

Future rail network improvements

- Beerburum to Landsborough new stations and additional track
- Alderley to Strathpine rail line
- Petrie to Kippa Ring rail corridor*
- Gold Coast line extension to Coolangatta*
- Lawnton to Petrie third track*
- Cleveland rail corridor upgrades*
- Sandgate to Shorncliffe rail duplication*
- Coomera to Helensvale, Kuraby to Kingston additional tracks*
- Beenleigh to Gold Coast – additional track and upgrades*
- Caboolture to Landsborough – realignment and additional rail line*
- Salisbury to Flagstone rail (alongside interstate corridor)*
- Beerwah to Maroochydore rail line*
- Ipswich to Ripley rail line
- Light rail on the Gold Coast* from Broadbeach to Coolangatta and Helensvale to Gold Coast University Hospital
- investigation of new light rail routes such as Broadbeach to Robina in the longer term

Brisbane Subway

- priority corridor from Toowong to West End to Bowen Hills/Newstead
- longer term opportunities to expand:
 - Bowen Hills/Newstead to Airport Village via Hamilton North Shore
 - Newstead to Bulimba

* project identified in *South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program*



For more information on the draft Connecting SEQ 2031 you can:

Freecall 1800 038 178 (free call within Australia, call charges may apply from mobiles and pay phones)

Email us team@connectingseq.qld.gov.au

Visit the website and fill out a feedback form at connectingseq.qld.gov.au