



New MetroRail reception.

New MetroRail project

The New MetroRail division is implementing the Government's strategy to expand the urban passenger railway network to Clarkson in the north, Thornlie in the south-east and Mandurah in the south by managing construction of the required railway infrastructure and associated structures within the budgetary and time constraints that have been set.

The project works constitute the largest public transport project undertaken in Western Australia. After a thorough review of the scope and cost of the project in December 2003, the Government approved an increase in the overall budget to \$1,518 million and decided to advance the completion of the works to Mandurah by one year, with the completion now due in December 2006.

Rollingstock

A contract for the supply and maintenance of 93 new railcars was awarded in May 2002 to EDI Rail Bombardier Transportation Pty Ltd. This order will nearly double the size of the urban passenger system's railcar fleet. The first three units were delivered and began trials on the existing network.

Delivery of railcars is planned to achieve the following service commencement dates:

- Clarkson services, October 4, 2004;
- Thornlie services, end of February 2005; and,
- Mandurah services, end of December 2006.

Infrastructure

Extension to Clarkson

Construction of all of the essential railway infrastructure was completed during the year and the overhead system was energised to enable track trials of the railcars.

Construction of Clarkson and Currabine stations commenced during the year and both stations are due to be completed in September 2004.

The existing platforms at stations on the Northern Suburbs Railway are being lengthened to accommodate six-car trains. Leederville, Edgewater, Warwick and Whitfords were completed during the year and Joondalup, Glendalough and Stirling will be completed early in 2004/05.

Construction of the Nowergup railcar depot was completed in May and the facility is being used for the stowage and maintenance of new railcars.

Construction of a new station at Greenwood commenced in February 2004 and will be completed in December 2004.

Spur line to Thornlie

A contract was awarded in February 2004 for the construction of bridges and the railway infrastructure between Beckenham Junction and Thornlie. Works under the contract are due to be completed early in 2005.

During the year, the railway works through Victoria Park and the road bridge at Miller Street/Roberts Road was completed, allowing the closure of a railway level crossing at Bishopsgate Street. Work was proceeding on construction of the pedestrian footbridge over the railway at Howick Street, and was due for completion in July 2004.

Construction of a new station at Victoria Park was deferred due to lack of competitive tenders in a saturated building market. Tenders are to be re-called in September 2004 with the intention that construction will start in early-2005 and be completed before the end of 2005.

Construction continued on stage two of the Kenwick tunnel including the tunnel structure, with the fit-out of the slab track, overheads, signalling and communications and the railway works between Beckenham Junction and Thornlie to be completed in the second half of 2004.

Works continued on the design and construction of the railway 25Kv feeder station at Beckenham and the 132Kv high voltage power supply to the feeder station from Western Power's Cannington terminal.

Perth to Mandurah (Southern Suburbs Railway)

During the year, three contracts were let for major works of the project. The value of these contracts is \$733 million which is almost half of the total project budget.

A contract was awarded in January 2004 to Leighton Contractors Pty Ltd by the Commissioner of Main Roads WA, on behalf of the PTA for the design and construction of the Southern Suburbs Railway corridor in the median of the Kwinana Freeway between the Narrows Bridge and Glen

Iris. This includes works to the existing new Narrows Bridge, a new railway bridge at the Narrows and widening and strengthening of the Mount Henry Bridge.

All works under the contract are due for completion in December 2005.

A contract was awarded to Leighton Contractors Pty Ltd for civil, drainage, structures, tunnels and track infrastructure works from the Narrows Bridge to the Perth central business district plus two underground stations. These works are the city project part of the New MetroRail project. All works under the contract are due for completion in late-2006.

A contract was awarded to RailLink Joint Venture for the design and construction of structures, civil and 72km of railway works from Mandurah to Perth. All works under the contract will be completed by late-2006.

Other infrastructure works

During the year designs were finalised and tenders called for construction of six of the nine stations between Canning Bridge and Mandurah.

A contract was awarded in July 2003 to Union Switch and Signal for a train control and customer information system. The contract is for both the existing urban passenger network and the extensions under the New MetroRail project. Detailed design and system development works under the contract continued during the year with all works scheduled for completion by December 2006.

Environmental

In November 2003, the Minister for the Environment endorsed the public environmental review process and issued Ministerial Statement 637 which contained the approval and environmental conditions for construction and operation of the Southern Suburbs Railway.



Work under way at Mt Henry Bridge.