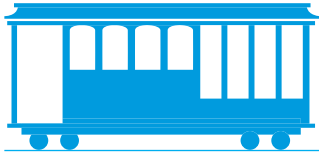


Christchurch Tram Extension Project



February 2010

Welcome to the first of what will become a regular newsletter from the Christchurch City Council that aims to keep businesses, interest groups and residents informed about the Christchurch Tram Extension Project.

Over the next 12 months we will keep you up to date on progress on the planning and construction of the tram track extension to make sure you know what's happening, when and where.

The official opening of Project City Mall last December was a great milestone for both the City Mall revitalisation and the tram extension projects. Over the next few months, City Mall contractors Downer EDi Works will return to the High Street section of the mall to install tram track from the Cashel Street intersection to the Flour Power sculpture near the Hereford Street corner. This work will be followed by the installation of tram tracks across the Colombo Street/Hereford Street intersection over Easter this year.

What's happening?

Council staff and consultants are right now working on the detailed design of the tram route extension. Expressions of interest for the construction were received in January and evaluation will shortly be taking place before tenders are invited.

It is expected a contractor will be appointed in April and, following this, the programme of works will be developed for the coming year. We understand that the timing of works is one of the most important questions you have to ask. When this programme is developed we will be much better able to answer your questions about when construction will take place on different sections of the route, and how long the stages will take to complete.

The construction contract will be let in April/May this year, with work set to continue through to August 2011, opening in time for the Rugby World Cup.

High Street upgrade

Council staff have recently been working on the High Street Upgrade project (between Cashel and Lichfield streets) which is a full street upgrade. As well as tram tracks, the project includes widening the existing kerbs, changing the parking layout and new street furniture. Consultation on the proposed plan closed in November and the findings will be presented to the Council in February. If approved, the work will be included in the tram extension contract.



An artist's impression of a tram running on the extended route through City Mall.

Keeping you informed

As well as the engineering detail, the project team has been meeting with stakeholders around the route to discuss the plans and answer their questions. The Lichfield/Poplar Street section of the tram extension is of particular interest to stakeholders at this time and the project team has set up meetings with landowners to ensure that the correct information is made available to those affected and that people have the opportunity to meet with Council staff.

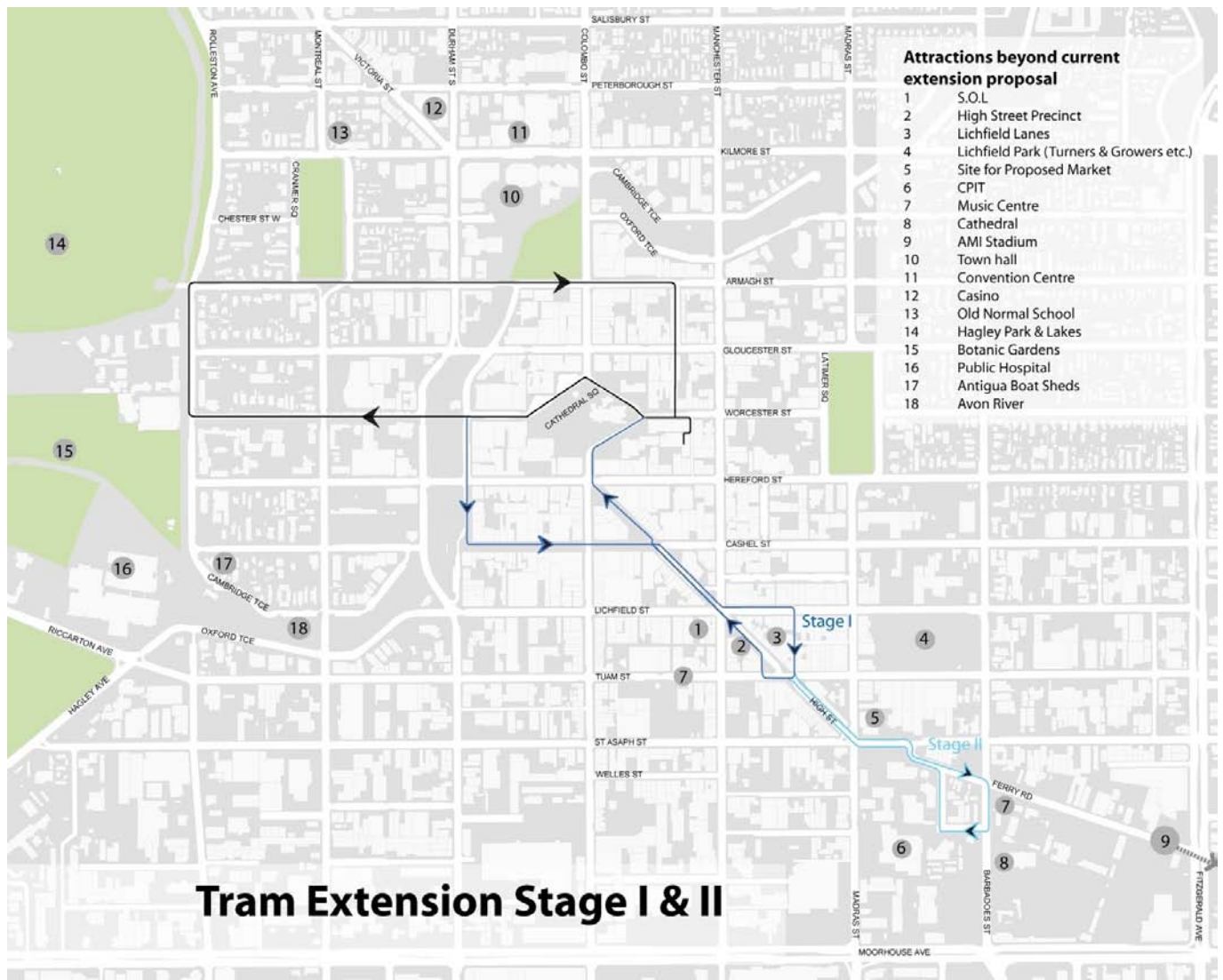
If you would like to discuss any aspect of the project or have information that you feel we need to know, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

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See reverse for a map of the tram route.

For more information on the tram take a look at the February 2010 issue of Avenues magazine.

Tram Route



Council staff are now working on detailed design for Stage One of the extended tram route. Construction will be carried out in various parts and staff will be in contact with those affected as work continues.