

**GREATER MANCHESTER INTEGRATED TRANSPORT AUTHORITY**  
**REPORT FOR INFORMATION**

**COMMITTEE:** Capital Projects  
**DATE:** 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2009  
**SUBJECT:** Metrolink Phase 3a and Media City Update  
**REPORT OF:** Metrolink Director, GMPTE

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**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To provide members with an update on Metrolink Phase 3a and Media City extensions.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are asked to note the contents of the report and the progress made to date on Metrolink Phase 3a and Media City extensions.

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide members with an update on the progress to date on the Phase 3a and Media City Metrolink extensions.

## **2. Metrolink Phase 3a**

### **2.1 Background**

- 2.1.1 The Contract to deliver Phase 3a of the Metrolink extensions programme was let to MPact - Thales in June 2008. It is a Design, Construct and Maintain (DCM) Contract; with the maintenance period running co-terminusly, in July 2017, with the existing Stagecoach Contract for operating and maintaining the existing system.

- 2.1.2 MPact – Thales is a consortium comprising the following companies;

Laing O'Rourke Infrastructure Limited

VolkerRail Limited (Formerly GrantRail)

Thales Transport and Security Limited

- 2.1.3 The Contractor's designers are a joint venture between Jacobs and Aecom.

### **2.2 Progress**

- 2.2.1 Progress is measured against an agreed Contractor Project Schedule (CPS), which details projected delivery timescales for all aspects of the Project. The overall programme is on schedule and the current forecast is for all required completion dates to be met. Overall forecast expenditure remains within the programme budget.

- 2.2.2 The designers are currently well advanced with Detailed Design Packages, and site activity has commenced on all lines.

#### **2.2.3 Oldham Rochdale Line**

Design submissions have been received from the Contractor for track and drainage for the section from Queens Rd to Central Park. Design Submissions have also been received for six tramstops – Monsall, Central Park, Newton Heath & Moston, Failsworth, Hollinwood and South Chadderton.

The Contractor has taken possession of the Oldham Rochdale line from Queens Road to Central Park. Site enabling works are ongoing; clearance of Japanese Knotweed is nearly complete; and embankments have been re-profiled. Drainage works are due to commence in June and survey works are ongoing under Network Rail (NR) possessions from Oldham Mumps to Rochdale.

Following the completion of Structural Assessment Reports for existing structures, agreement and instruction of scope of works is ongoing.

Network Rail 'GRIP 4' severance design is ongoing and workshops are underway to discuss coordination of NR and MPact - Thales planning schedules, construction sequences and engineering train access during the severance works.

GMPTe have now obtained planning permission for the Monsall stop. The application for the South Chadderton stop was submitted on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2009. Planning applications have yet to be submitted for the stops at Freehold, Oldham Mumps, Shaw & Crompton and Rochdale Railway Station and for the Park & Ride sites at Hollinwood and Derker. The Newbold stop already has planning consent although this expires on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2010. The remaining stops on the Oldham Rochdale Line are conversions of existing stations and do not require planning consent.

#### **2.2.4 East Manchester Line**

Highways detailed design is in progress. Final amendments are being undertaken to the draft Traffic Regulation Order schedules so that they can be formally issued.

Preliminary layouts have been prepared and outfalls identified for drainage works.

Design submissions have been received from the Contractor for New Islington, Holt Town, Sportcity-Velodrome and Clayton tramstops, track and drainage.

Retaining wall construction has commenced at Droylsden.

Manchester Rd former canal bridge piling works have been completed and substructure works have commenced.

First phase of piling works is complete at Great Ancoats St, and excavation works have been completed for capping beams which are now under construction.

Utility diversions are underway, in Droylsden and Pollard St areas.

The Transport and Works Act powers for the East Manchester Line provide deemed planning consent for the stops and therefore GMPTE are not required to obtain any planning consents on this line.

### **2.2.5 South Manchester Line**

Design submissions have been received from the Contractor for tramstops, track and drainage

Tree and Japanese Knotweed clearance is complete.

Temporary drainage has been installed to the route to combat standing water.

GMPTE have now obtained planning permission for the St Werburgh's Road stop. The other two stops (Chorlton and Firswood), do not require planning consent as they already have deemed consent under the Transport and Works Act powers for this line, although the revised access to the Firswood stop will ultimately require planning consent.

### **2.2.6 Trafford Depot**

Depot detailed design is approaching completion.

Elsinore Road has closed and this area now forms part of the Depot site.

Vibro-piling works have been completed under the maintenance building and the NMC building footprints.

## **3. Media City**

### **3.1 Background**

3.1.1 The Contract to deliver the Media City extension was let to MPact - Thales in June 2008, as an option under the Phase 3a Contract. Possession of the site was obtained in April 2009, following early enabling works carried out by the Media City development contractor.

3.1.2 The Media City extension comprises a new tramstop and approximately 400 metres of track into the Media City development; joining the Eccles line between Harbour City and Broadway. Trackwork, signalling and Overhead Line equipment changes will be undertaken at Cornbrook to facilitate the extension.

- 3.1.3 Works at Cornbrook and Broadway will be undertaken during the August blockade of the system.

## **3.2 Progress**

- 3.2.1 Progress is measured against an agreed Contractor Project Schedule (CPS), which details projected delivery timescales for all aspects of the Project. A number of interface issues have been experienced with the developer which have lead to design rework and some delays, but this is not programme critical.
- 3.2.2 Construction of tramstop walls is now complete, with drainage and ducting works now following on.
- 3.2.3 Stage 1 track slab construction has commenced.
- 3.2.4 Detailed design for Cornbrook track alignment and Overhead line has been delivered and is undergoing review, with the aim of reducing any work to the supporting viaduct.

Mott McDonald have been appointed to carry out design work relating to temporary signalling alterations, which will allow Cornbrook to return to normal operations following the blockade works. The detailed design will be delivered by 17th July 2009.

## **4. Recommendations**

Members are asked to note the contents of the report and the progress made to date on the Metrolink Phase 3a and Media City extensions.