

10 February 2009



CITY CENTRE RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES INVITED TO 'DROP IN' TO TRAM SURGERIES

The Edinburgh Tram Project is to welcome local residents and businesses to drop-in surgeries where they will be able to find out more about the project and the construction work planned for the city centre. The surgeries will be attended by project representatives who will be on hand to answer questions from members of the public and to explain more about the work on Princes Street and the surrounding areas.

During construction, Princes Street will be open to pedestrians only from February 21 until the end of November 2009, with the exception of the month of August, during which time it will be reopened for the Festival work embargo. Buses, cycles and taxis will be diverted along George Street and general traffic will be diverted along Queen Street until it is reopened.

Letters and maps have already been issued to city centre residents and businesses detailing the diversions and those seeking further information are invited to visit the following surgeries, which will be held at the Assembly Rooms, 54 George Street:

- Wednesday, 11 February from 2-4pm or 5-7pm
- Thursday, 12 February from 2-4pm or 5-7pm
- Friday, 13 February from 10am-12pm or 2-4pm

Mike Connelly, Stakeholder Communications Manager for the Edinburgh Tram Project, explained that events like these are a vital part of their work within the community. He said: "As the tram construction work continues in earnest in the centre of the city, we recognise that local residents and business owners wish to know more about this phase of the project and how it will impact upon them.

"In order to make sure these questions are answered, we have issued letters and posted detailed information on our website. However, we also feel that it is important to give people the opportunity to speak to project representatives face to face to discuss the work in more detail.



What are the benefits of trams?

For you

- One part of a better integrated transport system
- Safer – attendant plus driver
- Faster journey times
- Comfortable and accessible
- Less congestion = less pollution & noise
- Looks great

For Edinburgh

- Better transport is essential to the growth of the city and attracting new businesses
- Trams are environmentally friendly
- Connects Waterfront, Edinburgh Park and Edinburgh Airport with the City Centre
- Link to airport will benefit tourism and businesses
- Trams will attract more visitors to the City Centre

Media Release



“It also gives us a valuable opportunity to receive their feedback and learn about any special requirements that they may have.

“I look forward to welcoming people along to the surgeries and to answering their questions about this ambitious project, which will change the face of Edinburgh’s public transport.”

Residents or businesses owners wishing to discuss any special access or logistical requirements are also encouraged to phone the special Customer Helpline on 0800 328 3934 or email roadworks@edinburghtrams.com. Information is also available on the project’s website, www.edinburghtrams.com.

For information on buses please contact: www.lothianbuses.com or 0131 555 6363.



For further information, please contact Gordon Robertson or Louisa MacKenzie at Media House: 0131 247 7520 or 07887 542 124

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