

08 June 2009

TRAM TRACKS ARRIVE

An important milestone was reached today by the Edinburgh tram project when the first sections of track arrived on site in Princes Street.

The tracks were transported from the storage area in Leith to the Princes Street site where preparations are underway for them to be laid later this month. This phase of the project follows a series of complex utility diversion and enabling works which began in February of this year.

Steven Bell, Tram Project Director, said: "This is what people have been waiting for and will give reassurance, not just to those in the City Centre but across Edinburgh."

"This section of the work is also the first opportunity for residents and visitors to Edinburgh to see what the final infrastructure will look like on this innovative and ambitious project".

Gordon Mackenzie Transport Convener of City of Edinburgh Council, said: "This is an extremely significant milestone for the Edinburgh Tram Project. Retailers, businesses and visitors to Princes Street can now see physical evidence that we have taken another major step towards the delivery of a fast and efficient integrated transportation system for Edinburgh."



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