

TramForward

Campaigning for Light Rail

PRESS RELEASE FROM *TramForward*

31 July 2009

***TramForward* welcomes final go-ahead for Nottingham tram extensions**

***TramForward* are delighted at today's announcement by the Secretary of State that the Nottingham Tram extensions will now go ahead. During its first five years of operation Phase 1 of Nottingham Express Transit has proved to be a huge success and Robert Barker, the independent inspector at the public inquiry said that he saw no reason why this success shouldn't continue with Phase 2. We are especially pleased for Beeston town centre where a development is planned around a modern tramway; the indecision propagated by political uncertainty has blighted this town for too long. Public transport usage in Nottingham has markedly increased since Phase 1 opened, five years ago. The City and Borough Councils, the residents, businesses and transport operators have really taken to the concept of integrated transport. Nottingham is clearly a centre of public transport excellence and all the parties can now take pride in making still more progress.**

Steve Barber, Broxtowe Borough Councillor and Chair of Beeston & Chilwell for Integrated Transport said "This is a major breakthrough and a move for common sense. My vision has always been for a network of tramlines properly integrated with heavy rail, buses, cars, taxis, cycles and air transport. In Greater Nottingham we are now quickly moving towards that ideal"

"My only reservation is the time it has taken. I have run this campaign for Phase 2 for 8 years. In that time our twin city of Karlsruhe opened 10 lines."

NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. *TramForward* is the campaigning arm of the Light Rail Transit Association.
2. The Light Rail Transit Association is the world's leading organisation campaigning for better public transport through light rail, tramway and metro systems in our towns and cities for 70 years. It also supports the revitalisation of suburban and rural transport through the application of light rail.
3. The LRTA acts through its network of local branches, which campaign for better transport in their localities.
4. Membership of the LRTA costs under 12p a day. To join, visit www.lrta.org or write to the Membership Secretary, LRTA, 38 Wolseley Road, Sale, Greater Manchester, M33 7AU. Members of the LRTA receive the monthly magazine *Tramways & Urban Transit* - written and read by experts in the field - and gain other benefits including discounts on videos and books, tours of transport systems and cut-price admission to selected transport sites.
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