

TramForward

Campaigning for Light Rail

PRESS RELEASE FROM *TramForward*

13 October 2009

Tram Train from Sheffield to Rotherham and Parkgate

TramForward welcomes the recently announced Tram Train trial from Sheffield city centre to neighbouring Rotherham and Parkgate, which it considers will be extremely beneficial to the travelling public. The service will operate along the current Supertram network to Meadowhall South/Tinsley before joining the heavy rail section to Rotherham Central and Parkgate, hopefully with an extra stop at Magna Science Adventure Centre.

TramForward believes this trial should become a permanent service to be enhanced in time by diversion through Rotherham's currently ailing town centre, and with an extension from Sheffield Supertram's stop at University around the hospitals' loop.

Due to this exciting announcement we call on SYITA/PTE, Sheffield City Council and Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council to reconsider the Northern Bus Rapid Transit proposals which duplicate the existing Supertram route from Sheffield to Meadowhall, and consider redirecting the proposed funding towards providing South Yorkshire's travelling public with a state of the art transport system.

The results of this trial, which is being sponsored by the Department for Transport, Network Rail and Northern Rail, are expected to receive wide spread interest and will encourage other areas of the UK to adopt similar operations in their conurbations. South Yorkshire is again placed at the centre of public transport development

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.
5. Press enquiries - please contact:

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***TramForward* - The campaign arm of the Light Rail Transit Association.**

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