

Suburban stations receiving a facelift

City's green spine coming down line

WHAT'S COMING:

Upgrades to six stations:

- Fairfield, Yeronga, Yeerongpilly, Moorooka, Rocklea and Salisbury
- Work has begun at Fairfield
- The station's heritage shelter has been temporarily removed
- New features include a third platform, new accessible overpass to replace existing overpass, new lifts and stairs, inclusion of accessible parking and retention and relocation of the existing heritage shelter

Yeerongpilly station

- Extra third platform, accessible overpass and lifts and parking spaces, new station building, platform improvements, ride spaces, realigned bus stop and carparking, bike enclosures
- The current station building will be removed as the entire platform is required to be raised by 200-300mm
- Construction proposed to start in June 2021 and will take approximately 18-24 months to complete, weather and construction conditions permitting

Yeronga station

- Extra third platform, a new station building, a new accessible overpass and lifts, accessible parking bays, new "kiss 'n' ride" spaces, platform improvements and bike enclosures
- Construction is proposed to start for Yeronga station in September 2020 and will take approximately 18-24 months, weather and construction conditions permitting
- Train services from Yeronga

Gold Coast, 3 new stations:

- Pimpama, Helensvale North and Merrimac
- Will create more than 120 construction jobs on the Gold Coast



Lucy Haines at the Yeronga train station, which is due for an upgrade (inset) as part of the Cross River Rail project. Photo: Josh Woning

DAN KNOWLES DANIELLE O'NEAL

A GREEN spine is set to transform Brisbane's CBD, while an orange army of workers will build six new suburban stations as part of the \$5.4 billion Cross River Rail project.

CRR's Albert St underground station will be used to kickstart the project, which will link the Botanic Gardens and the CBD across to Spring Hill with a leafy pedestrian corridor.

Albert St, with its 67,000

passengers every weekday, is likely to be the first taste of Brisbane that visitors see.

The Courier-Mail, in conjunction with the CRR Delivery Authority, is presenting a series looking at what the project will bring to the state.

As well as being the stimulus for a transformation of the city's heart, CRR includes upgrades to eight above-ground stations including Salisbury, Rocklea, Moorooka, Yeerongpilly, Yeronga, Fairfield, Dutton Park and the Exhibition, which will become a year-round station.

The Gold Coast line will get three new stations at Pimpama, Helensvale North and Merrimac.

Stations will largely be prefabricated offsite, and the upgrades will occur in stages to minimise disruptions.

Psychology student Clara Hall, 19, lives locally and frequently uses the stations at Yeronga and Yeerongpilly to travel to university.

Ms Hall said she supported functional improvements and safety features.

The Yeronga station upgrade will include an ad-

ditional third platform, a new station building, a new accessible overpass and lifts, accessible parking bays, platform improvements and bike enclosures.

Lucy Haines, 20, recently started using Yeronga Station to travel to her university placement in Hamilton.

"It definitely could be nicer," Ms Haines said.

"I will still use the station while it's like this, but some upgrades for things like safety would probably be good."

More than 7700 people will work on the \$5.4 billion

project over the five years of construction, with 400 local suppliers signed up and more than 160 apprentice and traineeship positions already filled of the 450 to be created.

Major construction works have started and are due to be completed in 2024.

The 10.2km rail line will run from Dutton Park to Bowen Hills, including 5.9km of twin tunnels under the Brisbane River and Brisbane CBD, creating a second river crossing for the rail network that means more trains move often across the network.