



SUNSHINE COAST RAIL... THE FAST FACTS...

WHAT IS FAST RAIL?

What is FAST Rail to Maroochydore?

Fast rail to Maroochydore is different to the highly controversial light rail mass transit system and not to be confused. Fast rail will use the preserved corridor known as CAMCOS (CAboolture to Maroochydore COrridor Study) to connect Brisbane to the heart of the Sunshine Coast at Maroochydore.

The CAMCOS heavy rail corridor is preserved to Maroochydore from the Beerwah juncture on the North Coast Rail Line and will connect the Coast to Brisbane.

Why is it important?

We need better public transport to connect us within the Sunshine Coast as well as to Brisbane and SEQ, particularly with the 2032 Olympics and the population growth that is already happening regardless of this event.

Liveability on the Sunshine Coast and having alternative transport to cars requires better roads, rail and buses to give people connection.

We aren't that far from Brisbane, but still far enough to sit in traffic for hours if highways are gridlocked.

Who is responsible to build it?

The State Government is responsible for passenger rail in Queensland. It owns the CAMCOS corridor and North Coast Rail Line it would connect to. For the project to progress, they must include it within their current transport strategies and lay out a plan to design, cost and fund this project rather than leaving it orphaned without an owner. As other infrastructure and development is built around this corridor, there is a danger that the CAMCOS heavy rail project to Maroochydore will be further compromised.

WHAT IS LIGHT RAIL?

What is LIGHT Rail to Maroochydore?

The Sunshine Coast Mass Transit Project (most commonly associated with Light Rail, though potentially involving other modes) is for transport from Caloundra to Maroochydore, along Nicklin Way and Alexandra Pde).

Why is it important?

The Sunshine Coast needs a better integrated transport system to connect the whole of the Sunshine Coast.

I believe a fleet of modern, electric buses and improved timetables throughout the Coast is a superior option than a Light Rail system just in the Caloundra-Maroochydore corridor. Light Rail is expensive, inflexible and removes capacity from the road network. It also comes with high density town planning and impacts, rather than enhances our natural amenity (ie Alexandra Headland Bluff). Even with "mode shift" (more people opting for public transport over cars), when combined with an increased density of population under Council's town plan, and reduced road capacity, traffic congestion will be worse.

What stage is the planning at?

A majority of Sunshine Coast Councillors voted on 20 October to keep light rail as one of the five options in the Mass Transit Options Analysis Report to be referred to the State Government despite community opposition. This was not a unanimous decision. Council advised it anticipates the State Government will start reviewing the Options Analysis Report in the coming weeks, with preparation of a Detailed Business Case anticipated to get underway in 2022.

Who is responsible for the final decision?

The State Government will review the options provided by Sunshine Coast Council to make the final decision. I will fight for the integrated transport plan for the Sunshine Coast and I do not believe that Light Rail is the right option. As I outlined above, there are better options which will meet our regions needs.

WHY IS FAST RAIL IMPORTANT?

We need better public transport to connect us within the Sunshine Coast as well as to Brisbane and SEQ, particularly with the 2032 Olympics and the growth that is already happening regardless of this event. Liveability on the Sunshine Coast and having alternative transport to cars requires better roads, rail and buses to give people connection.