CROSS RIVER TRAM:
Linking key development, transportation and regeneration sites through the historical heart of London

Rail~Volution Conference, Miami 2007
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London - A Quick Overview

- Capital of England and the UK
- Population - 8m (central), 13m (metro)

- Strategic Planning - Mayor of London & Greater London Authority
- Transportation Planning & Delivery - Transport for London
- Local Administration - 33 planning authorities

- Over 2000 years old!
London’s Transportation Network

- 12 line underground ‘tube’ network dating from 1863
- 24-hour bus network (700+ routes)
- Overground rail network and ‘Tramlink’ LRT
- Ticketless smartcard system (‘Oyster’)
- Regulated taxis and private-hire vehicles
- 5 major airports
- 360 mile road network & 6,000 traffic lights
- Congestion Charging ($16/day)
- Transit carries 10m pax/day or 3b pax/year
- Central London mode share of 40%
London’s Planning and Policy Context

- London Plan and the Mayor’s Transport Strategies set the vision and context for the planning and development of transit in the city.
- Objectives include:
  - accommodating growth within the existing city boundaries;
  - making London a more liveable city;
  - making London a more prosperous city with the benefits shared by all;
  - promoting social inclusion and tackling deprivation and discrimination;
  - improving accessibility with fast and efficient transport; and
  - making London a more attractive, well-designed and green city.
The London You May Know...
The London You Probably Don’t…

- derelict parcels of land
- large council estates
- congested transit network
- never ending roadworks
Addressing Some of the Challenges

- World Squares For All: ‘de-trafficking’ Trafalgar & Parliament Squares
- Transportation:
  - Congestion charging and capacity reduction
  - Expanding services and the public transit network
  - Exchanging diesel for consultancy with Venezuela
  - Free travel to all under-18s
- Air quality: low emission zone in 2008
Cross River Tram - Project Objectives

- Increased capacity to facilitate intensification and growth in areas of need and opportunity;
- Create new links between key regeneration areas and central London to improve access to jobs and other opportunities;
- Congestion relief on the bus and Underground networks;
- Provide an attractive and affordable alternative to the private car;
- Full accessibility for people with disabilities or mobility impairments;
- Energy efficient system that emits no greenhouse gases; and
- Provide improved quality public and open spaces.
The Planned Network & Services

- 10 mile street running LRT
- Core section running from Euston Station to Waterloo Station
- Two northern branches to Camden Town and Kings Cross/St Pancras
- Two southern branches to Brixton and Peckham

- Links six major railway stations
- Connects 10 of the 12 Tube lines

- 45m LRVs (320 pax capacity)
- 2 min headways in the core section & 4 min headways on the branches
CRT - Helping to Tackle Unemployment and Deprivation

- 12% unemployment along route:
  - 7% London-wide
  - 5% UK-wide
- 13 of the 22 wards ranked among the most ‘deprived’ in the UK

CRT will improve access to jobs and other opportunities in central London
CRT - Improving Accessibility and Reducing Severance

- South London ‘poorly’ served by existing fixed public transit network:
  - 33 Underground stations south of the river vs. 241 north of the Thames
- Car ownership levels very low along route (even by London standards):
  - 62% of households do NOT have a car
- 118,000 live within 400m of a stop

CRT will improve accessibility and provide increased capacity to and from central London
CRT - Supporting Development & Regeneration

- Three major development/regeneration sites along the route:
  - Kings Cross/St Pancras
  - Aylesbury housing estate
  - Elephant & Castle / Heygate Estate

- In addition, major redevelopments and expansion planned for:
  - Euston Station
  - Waterloo Station
CRT - Kings Cross/St Pancras

Enhanced transport interchange including:
- Eurostar services
- New ticket halls for the underground
- Integrated with Thameslink national rail project upgrades

Development includes:
- 1,900 homes
- 4.9m sq.ft office space
- 495k sq.ft retail, plus:
  - schools, hotels, health centres and ten new public open spaces
London’s Cross River Tram Project
CRT - Aylesbury Housing Estate

- Crime reported every 4 hours!
- Housing to be increased from 2,759 to 4,900 homes
- ...of which roughly half will be market housing
- CRT to be integrated within the development
CRT - Elephant & Castle / Heygate Estate

- 1960’s designed mall and housing estate - includes over 1 mile of underground walkways
- Development site spread over 170 acres
- Creation of new ‘south central’ city with opportunity created by redevelopment of obsolete retail and residential areas
- $3b project including:
  - Over 5,000 new homes
  - Up to 1 m. sq.ft of commercial space
  - New public transit interchange
London’s Cross River Tram Project
Keys to Ongoing Project Success

- Ensure clarity of objectives
  - Make sure that the design focuses on achieving them
  - Continue to use the objectives to help with strategic & local trade-offs

- Engage with stakeholders and the public to gain support and secure the ‘wow’ factor
  - Widespread support among the public (92%) & stakeholders
  - Use the stakeholders as your project ‘champions’
  - Don’t underestimate the value of high quality visual materials

- Take the opportunity to improve public places through integrated urban design
London’s Cross River Tram Project
Challenges still to Overcome

- **Maintaining support through project development:**
  - Long planning horizon
  - Devil is in the detail
  - Managing expectations

- **Affordability (i.e. controlling capital cost)**

- **Acceptability**
  - Public, stakeholder and political
  - Managing trade-offs
Thank you

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