



Trolley's Green Line to start running along portion of extended route downtown

By Daily Transcript Staff Report

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One of many goals of the \$720 million San Diego Trolley renewal project has been met.

Starting Sept. 2, the trolley's Green Line will run through downtown San Diego, past the Convention Center and Petco Park, all the way to the 12th and Imperial Transit Center, the San Diego Association of Governments announced Thursday.

Together with the Metropolitan Transit System, which operates the trolley system, SANDAG began administering the trolley renewal project in the fall of 2010, and a ceremony was held Thursday at the newly renovated Gaslamp Quarter Trolley Station to mark what SANDAG called a milestone.

When all phases are complete, the trolley renewal project will bring 65 low-floor trolley cars to the region — bringing the system's total of the sleek and more easily accessible cars to 76. The project will also raise the platforms at 35 trolley stations to accommodate the low-floor vehicles, replace rail and overhead wires, and improve street crossings, switching, and signaling.

The low-floor trolley cars will be added to the Orange Line in spring 2013, and to the Blue Line in summer 2014, according to a news release. So far, five renovated stations — Civic Center, Convention Center, Gaslamp Quarter, Middletown, and Washington Street — have been reopened.

All Green Line extension stations are expected to be substantially complete by October, while all of the Orange Line stations are expected to be substantially complete by March 2013.

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