

Rail plans to boost east London

A public inquiry opens next week into plans to extend the London Overground to Barking Riverside.

THE proposals would provide a vital new transport link and support the creation of more than 10,000 new homes – up to 50 per cent of which are likely to be affordable – within the next 15 years.

The 4km extension of the Gospel Oak to Barking line to Barking Riverside would offer an alternative to car travel and link Barking Riverside to London's public transport network. From Barking, customers could

connect with the District and Hammersmith & City lines, and c2c services to London Fenchurch Street and Essex.



The new London Overground service would operate along the existing Tilbury rail line then via a new section of railway, built as a raised viaduct, ending in Barking Riverside. A station would be built at the heart of a new district

centre that would provide healthcare, shopping, community and leisure facilities.

Without a rail link, no more than 1,500 homes could be built as part of this new development.

The extension is fully funded. The majority of the cost is being met by the developers, Barking Riverside Limited – a joint venture between the Greater London Authority and London & Quadrant – and the remainder by TfL.

If the scheme is approved, construction could begin next year, with train services starting as soon as 2021.

Deputy Mayor of Transport, Val Shawcross, said: 'The extension of the Overground will be key to the success of the exciting new developments at Barking Riverside, with a new station built alongside 10,800 new homes, shops and restaurants, and new school and health services.'

'As we have seen in other parts of London, the extended Overground line will be an integral part of ensuring regeneration benefits everyone in the community, with excellent transport links to the rest of London and the creation of new homes and jobs.'

■ For more information about TfL's plans for Barking Riverside, visit tfl.gov.uk/barking-riverside



WORK on upgrading the Gospel Oak to Barking line is progressing as part of TfL's improvement plan and the wider Railway Upgrade Plan.

Since September 24, the line has been closed to allow Network Rail to carry out electrification works, with longer four-carriage electric trains due to be introduced from 2018.

During the closure, TfL is improving platforms and stations to prepare for these longer trains. The line is expected to reopen in February 2017.

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£13million boost to fund transport

A new TfL advertising contract will generate more than £13million in revenue to reinvest in London's transport network.

The contract, with Outdoor Plus, will see new digital roadside screens installed at six busy underpasses across the capital, including the A3 Kingston, the A40 in Ealing and the northern ring road at Wembley Way.

Together they will be seen by around half a million road users every day.

More sites could come later, subject to planning permission.

Graeme Craig, TfL's director of

commercial development, said: 'It is another example of our wider commercial approach to generate

non-fare revenue, which will be reinvested in the transport network.'

The TfL advertising estate is one of the largest in the world. It accounts for 20 per cent of all out-of-home advertising in the UK, and 40 per cent of the London market. Making the best use of this

estate is part of TfL's wider commercial approach to ensure it can deliver a modern and affordable public transport network now and in the future.



Word on the tweet

CENTRAL line passengers can put their questions to general manager Chris Taggart as part of TfL's Tweet the Manager series.

Whether you want to know about the Night Tube, station developments, or have general questions, this is your chance to get in touch. To join the discussion, just tweet your questions to @Centralline using the hashtag #askCentral from 1pm today.

Twitter users can now sign up to receive live notifications about disruption on their lines as part of a world-first pilot scheme launched by TfL. For more details, visit @TfLTravelAlerts.

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