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MEDIA RELEASE

TBM ANNABELL COMPLETES HER TUNNELLING JOURNEY

THE Legacy Way project is celebrating the spectacular breakthrough of tunnel boring machine (TBM) *Annabell* as she completed her underground journey two months ahead of schedule.

Lord Mayor Graham Quirk said the breakthrough of *Annabell* indicated that the Legacy Way tunnel would be delivered on-time to residents and visitors by 2015.

"Each milestone we reach on this project brings us one step closer to being able to provide a four minute trip between Toowong and Kelvin Grove," Cr Quirk said.

Described as an absolute clean cut, the breakthrough was an impressive sight with the rock wall falling from the top of the TBM.

Transcity Project Director, Fernando Fajardo said it was one of the most exciting TBM breakthroughs he had ever witnessed.

"It was certainly impressive to see, the wall fell from the top so it was much more spectacular and exciting for everyone watching," he said.

"The breakthrough of *Annabell* in such a short timeframe is an amazing feat, and a credit to the team's combined expertise and hard work," he said.

Launched from the western worksite at Toowong in August 2012, *Annabell* joined her sister TBM *Joyce* in setting new industry benchmarks as both machines excavated from Toowong to Kelvin Grove.

Legacy Way's TBMs have demonstrated outstanding levels of production setting the project at a world class level for production using large diameter TBMs.

"The performance of our two TBMs, *Annabell* and *Joyce*, has set our project amongst the best in the world, and we are all very proud of our achievements," Mr Fajardo said.

During her time tunnelling under Brisbane's inner western suburbs, *Annabell* achieved incredible records excavating 48m in one day, as well as a maximum of 239.9m in one week and a 30 day maximum of 818.89m.

"Our tunnelling performance can be attributed to our seamless logistics process, innovations in tunnel construction, and perfect ground conditions," Mr Fajardo said.

Now she has arrived at the eastern worksite, *Annabell* will be disassembled beneath the eastern cut and cover structure over the next four months.

Transcity used two Herrenknecht Double-Shield TBMs to excavate Legacy Way's twin 4.6km tunnels. These machines each measure 12.4 metres in diameter, 110 metres long and weigh 2,800 tonnes.

Legacy Way is Brisbane City Council's 4.6km road tunnel that will connect the Western Freeway at Toowong with the Inner City Bypass (ICB) at Kelvin Grove. It will provide an alternative route to local roads for traffic leaving the Western Freeway and travelling to and from the ICB. Once open in 2015, Legacy Way will almost halve peak hour travel times between the Centenary Bridge and the ICB.

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