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Business

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Metrolink's '3,200 new jobs'

Kevin Feddy
 1/ 8/2008

THE proposed expansion of Greater Manchester's Metrolink network will generate more than 3,200 new jobs in the city area over the next 18 years, a report said today.

A study for economic development agency Manchester Enterprises said the expanded workforce would boost the area's economy by almost £160m by 2026.

The new posts will be in sectors ranging from IT and creative industries to financial and professional services, said the report by consultancy Volterra.

They will come about because an improved public transport system will make commuting easier, and therefore encourage more people to stay in the region, which will attract new companies and encourage those present to expand, it added.

A separate report, produced by those backing the controversial road pricing scheme, claimed businesses would save £5.3bn in travel time over 60 years if the Transport Innovation Fund (TIF) scheme, involving a £3bn investment package in public transport goes ahead.

Greater Manchester's 10 local authorities have submitted a bid for the project and will hold local referendums on it later this year.

Under the current proposals, the Metrolink would be extended to Ashton under Lyne, East Didsbury, Wythenshawe, Manchester Airport, Oldham, Rochdale and Trafford Park.

Today's report indicates that the new jobs would improve the economic life of the city centre area as a whole, as there would be more opportunities to do business without having to travel further afield, and therefore greater productivity.

It also shows that house prices could rise by up to £12,000 over time as a direct result of the extension, as the prospect of cutting travelling times would make properties on the routes more attractive.

Mike Emmerich, chief executive of Manchester Enterprises, said: "It is important to understand the impact the expansion programme would have on businesses, and the people who live and work in the region.

"As Greater Manchester assesses the TIF package, this study provides a further source of information to enable people to judge its merits."

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“ I fink yur all fick as 2 short planks.

Its well nown that the conjection charge will make life at least 73.8% better. Roses will smell 52.7% rosier and manchester will be 98.43% less carbony.

The sooner you lot just STFU and give the cownsul your cards an pin numbers the bettor and they can just leet you have back howeva much they dont need - right!

d1v1s1onby0, Wigan
 5/08/2008 at 21:47

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“ i love manchester! but having just been to birmingham for the weekend. i can honestly say we'd better be worried. we'll shoot ourselves in the foot if we accept this con charge. businesses will flock to places like that to avoid incurring extra costs from the introduction of the charge.



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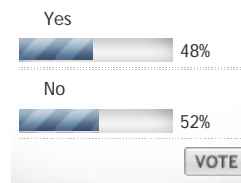


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Jay B, oldham
5/08/2008 at 10:23

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