



# The West Link Taking Gothenburg into the future

Rail services will be more frequent, travel times shorter, and you will be able to reach more destinations without the hassle of changing transportation methods. As commuting times are reduced, the labour market will expand – for the inhabitants of both Gothenburg and the whole of Western Sweden – an important prerequisite for regional growth and a sustainable urban and regional development.

The West Link is a railway tunnel underneath central Gothenburg which will provide three new stations and connect commuter traffic with transit traffic. Many commuters will not have to change to a tram or bus, but can instead get off at one of the new stations, Haga or Korsvägen, and walk to their place of work or studies.

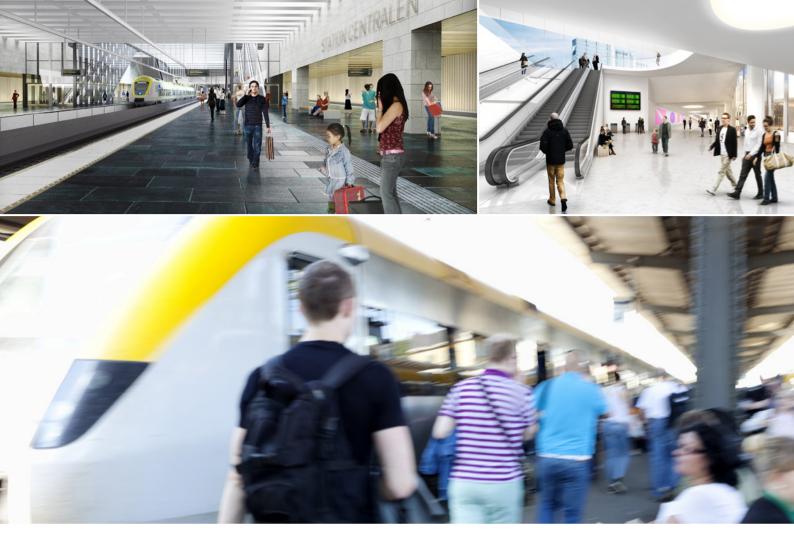
# Better opportunities to choose where you live and work

When commuter times become shorter and railway capacity increases, the labour market grows. At the same time,

it provides people with better options: it makes it possible to live where you enjoy residing and you still are able to get to work quickly and conveniently. More people commuting by trains also means less cars on the roads, better air in the city centre and a reduced climate impact.

## A prerequisite for development

Western Sweden is growing. The population and the economy are undergoing steady growth. In monetary terms, trade and industry in Western Götaland account for more than a quarter of Sweden's exports. An important



prerequisite for continued regional growth is that the current local markets can be expanded so that more people can gain access to more workplaces within a reasonable commuting time. Gothenburg's central station is the hub of Western Sweden's railway system, and with today's level of traffic, it is being used to its maximum. In order for the planned measures in other parts of the network to have the intended effect, capacity must also be increased in Gothenburg. Only then can the rail services provide travellers with optimum levels of efficiency, safety and service.

#### Korsvägen and Haga stations making things easier

With the West Link, Gothenburg central will acquire a new underground station in the northern part of the terminal. Two completely new stations will also be available, Haga and Korsvägen. The Railway Study demonstrates that this alternative best fulfils the project's primary objective of contributing to sustainable growth in both the Gothenburg region and the country as a whole.

## A major project for the future

The construction of the West Link is estimated to begin around 2017/2018 and finish approximately in 2026. Once the West Link is completed, only the station entrances will be visible in the city, but during the construction process the project will be rather noticeable. The ambition is that there will be as little disturbance as possible to the people

who live, work and drive in the area, or to those who use nearby public transport services. Construction will be divided into a number of stages to reduce the amount of time any one area is affected.

## Good experiences from previous tunnel construction work

Where possible the tunnel passes through rock, which is about two thirds of the facility, or underneath streets and squares in the city, rather than areas with buildings.

Where the tunnel must pass under buildings, extensive safety measures will be taken and in some cases the foundations will be reinforced.

Experience from other major construction projects, including the construction of the Göta Tunnel in Gothenburg, the City Tunnel in Malmö and the Stockholm City Line demonstrate that it is possible to make adjustments where necessary and make use of construction methods that minimize disruptions.

For construction of the tunnel through rock we will use a conventional drill and blast-method. For the portion of the tunnel that will pass through soil or dirt (about one third of the total length) we will use the cut and cover-technique.

#### This is the West Link

The West Link will connect commuter traffic and provide the city with three new stations. A new underground station at Gothenburg Central will be located in the northern part of the terminal. There will also be two stations in parts of the city not currently being served by

commuter trains, Haga and Korsvägen. With the West Link, it will be easier to travel – rail services will be more frequent, travel times will be shorter and the traveller will be able to reach more destinations without the hassle of having to change between different types of transport.



The West Link is a part of the West Swedish Agreement

For more information visit www.trafikverket.se/westlink



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