



Panama's Subway On Track

Thursday, 07 January 2010

The long and eagerly awaited details of Panama's first subway were released on Wednesday.

The first phase, from Albrook terminal to Los Andes will stretch over 14 kilometers and have 15 stations. Eleven of the stations will be underground.

The work is likely to be completed in early 2014, a pivotal year for Panama when the widened canal will open, and the country will go to the polls to determine their reaction to five years of Martinelli rule.

In Panama City, they will be reflecting on the performance of city mayor Bosco Vallarino.

After leaving Albrook the train's first stop will be at Curundu where new government offices are planned. The third station will be in Plaza Cinco de Mayo, close to the National Assembly, followed by El Marañón, in Calidonia, near the start of Calle 50. Another major stop will be the Iglesia del Carmen, where buses will pick up University of Panama students. Other stations will be on Via Argentina, Via Brazil, Fernandez de Cordoba and 12 de Octubre. There will be a major intersection served by buses and taxis in San Miguelito. The last stop will be Sugar Loaf in Los Andes.

The first stretch will be underground but from Fernandez de Cordoba to Los Andes the route will be above ground. The electric trains will have steel wheels, and up to six cars, with an estimated maximum capacity of 40,000 passengers an hour.

Panama Names Firms That Can Bid On Subway Project

March 22, 2010

PANAMA CITY, March 22 (Reuters) – Spain's Acciona, Brazil's Construtora Norberto Odebrecht, and Italy's Impregilo lead three consortia that will be allowed to bid on a \$1.5 billion contract to build a Panamanian subway, Panama's government said.

Bids to build a nine-mile (14 km) subway through Panama City will be due by March 31, the government said in a statement.

The exact target price for the contract has not been announced, but the finance ministry estimated the cost at \$1.5 billion in February.

A winner could be announced in July and construction could begin before the end of this year, the government said.

Acciona subsidiary Acciona Infraestructuras leads the Cima consortium, which includes Japan's Mitsubishi Corporation and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, as well as Mexico's Constructoras ICA and Spain's CAF .

Construtora Norberto Odebrecht leads the Linea Uno consortium, which includes Spain's FCC.

Impregilo's all-Italian consortium, Grupo Italiano Metro Panama, includes Astaldi and Ghella.

Metro Subway Project Will Create 3,000 New Jobs

Tuesday, April 27 2010

The project to build a new Metro system in Panama City, the flagship project of the Martinelli administration, will generate about 3,000 new jobs, announced yesterday the executive secretary of the Metro, Roberto Roy. Foremen, masons, electricians, engineers, transportation specialists, and electrical engineers will be some of the vacancies that will have to be filled. However the secretary of the Metro said that between 30 to 50 foreign professionals who specialize in handling this type of infrastructure, will be hired, because Panama does not have this type of qualified personnel.