

Lagos state acquires two sets of additional trains for the blue line rail project

The Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Sanwoolu has announced that his government has acquired two additional set of trains for the blue line project.

The Governor twitted, via his official his official twitter handle, thus: ***“Dear Lagosians, we have taken delivery of two new train sets for the blue line rail. These passenger trains have been cleared at the point of entry and were moved to the National Theater station where they have been lifted up to elevated tracks.***

I am indeed glad to inform you the good people of Lagos that with the arrival of these set of trains, we are on course with our plans to change the face of rail transport system in Lagos state. A greater Lagos is indeed rising.”

Lagos state Government had announced the acquisition of three new sets of trains for the blue line in January 2022. The Lagos Blue line project will run 27.5 km from the Lagos Marina to Okokomaiko (along the Lagos – Badagry road). The rail system entails the construction of 13 stations and the end-to-end journey is estimated to be 25 minutes.

The Blue line rail project is a critical part of the Lagos rail mass transit system being developed by Lagos Metropolitan Area Transport Authority. (LAMATA}

The completion of the first phase of the Lagos Blue line marks a defining moment in the implementation of the Strategic Transport Master Plan (LSMP), designed and adopted by the Lagos state Government in 1999. The plan envisaged and incorporated the construction of six rail lines, one mono rail, 14 Bus rapid System routes, more than twenty water routes and the development of cycle lane network with pedestrian lanes. Other rail lines being planned under the strategic master plan are the Brown, Orange, Purple, Green and Yellow and Red lines.

All this is coming 37 years after the Civilian government conceived and signed agreements towards the construction of the Lagos Metro line Project in 1983. That great effort was thwarted and the contract terminated by the military regime of Muhammed Buhari.

----- By Kehinde Owolabi