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Lea Bridge Station to reopen

29 January 2013 in Waltham Forest News

After being out of commission for over a quarter of a century, Lea Bridge Station now looks set to reopen. The outcome of an extremely positive meeting between Waltham Forest Council and Network Rail was a firm undertaking to work together to deliver the reopening of Lea Bridge Station as soon as possible.

"I was delighted with the result of the meeting," said Council Leader Chris Robbins. "Network Rail is extremely positive about reopening this station and we've set in play a good relationship to be able to go forward together to see the station built."

The news of the meeting comes off the back of the Council securing £6.5million funding for the project at the end of last year, making a long-sought ambition for the borough a step closer to becoming a reality.

"It's very exciting," said Cllr Robbins. "The level of commitment from Network Rail was very encouraging and with the funding in place we can now forge ahead with our plan to reopen the station."

The Council has commissioned detailed designs and worked with Transport for London on the business case. It also engaged consultants to demonstrate the viability of the station reopening and the numbers of people who would use the line.

"We've worked very hard to make sure we have scoped out this project properly and have the hard and fast plans required to take the project forward. Our job now is to get the station built and open for local people to use.

"We know that a significant transport link like this can provide a real boost to an area – particularly one that has already had expressions of interest from developers looking to regenerate this part of the borough."

Lea Bridge Station is just one element of the Council's ambitious regeneration plans for the borough that forms part of its 'Creating a better place to live' campaign.

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