

# Plans for 'green' trains in Bay

## Apple Express Rail to seek concession for unused railway line

Plans are afoot to introduce custom-built "green" trains – either solar- or liquefied petroleum gas-powered – which will run daily along the iconic Apple Express railway line between the city's beachfront and the R1.7-billion Baywest Mall.

The non-profit organisation behind the move, Apple Express Rail (AER), is also lobbying Transnet to be allowed the full use of the 285km line on concession, with plans to not only fully rehabilitate the train track using private funding, but in the process boost tourism, job creation and economic development in the region.

Baywest managing director Gavin Blows said the mall developers, Abacus Asset Management and Billion Group, were in full support of the initiative.

AER will meet senior Transnet executives by the end of next month to present a business case to the parastatal for rehabilitating the unused railway line.

[Herald]

