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Union welcomes plans for new underground lines

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ASLEF has welcomed initial plans for the construction of two major new underground lines announced by Ken Livingstone. Labour's candidate for London Mayor has said that, if elected, he will introduce Crossrail 2 which would connect Wimbledon and Epping via Chelsea and Hackney and also bring in Crossrail 3 which would allow passengers on high speed trains from Scotland and the north of England to reach the south via London on the same train.

Endorsing the plans ASLEF General Secretary Mick Whelan said 'I'm encouraged to hear a politician take a long term view of where our transport system should be which is precisely what we need to do in order to meet the capacity challenges of the future.'

Mick added 'As a country, we won't be building any more roads or motorways so investment in rail is vital. With Crossrail due for completion in 2018 and high speed rail launching around 2026, it's indisputable that further cross London links will be needed for future generations so I'm glad that Ken's vision is a broad one which goes beyond mere electoral cycles.'

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