

Mundijong Freight Rail Realignment Planning Study

Project overview

The south-west freight rail currently runs through Mundijong, separating sections of the town. State and local strategic plans recognise the need to realign the freight line to the developing West Mundijong Industrial Area, adjacent to the future Tonkin Highway Extension, north of Mundijong Road.

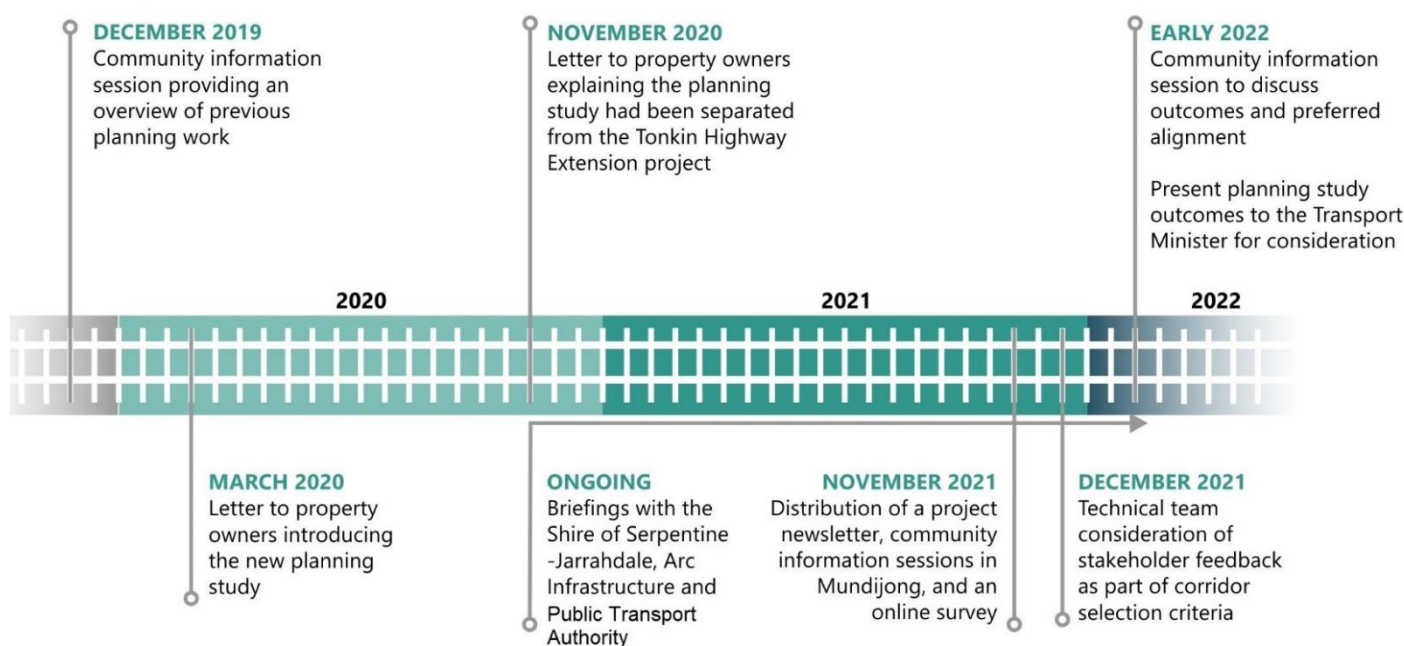
Main Roads is carrying out a planning study to determine this future transport corridor, which will improve safety and amenity in the Mundijong Town Centre.

The realignment of the freight line will remove the freight train operations through the town centre and the freight line infrastructure along Bishop Road. The line north-south through the town centre will remain. This line will continue to service the Australind and may be upgraded in the future to accommodate further extension of the electrified network south from Byford to Mundijong/beyond.

Determining a preferred rail corridor will ultimately enable a rail reserve to be set aside in the Metropolitan Region Scheme (MRS) and provide certainty for the community and adjacent property owners about the freight railway's future location.

Benefits

- Improve community safety and amenity.
- Provide better transport infrastructure connectivity.
- Improve efficiencies of rail operations.
- Allow for the development of an Intermodal Transport Hub.
- Reduce the need for grade separations over the freight rail in current and future urban precincts.



Background

A freight rail realignment proposal was included in the *Perth & Peel @3.5M Sub-Regional Planning Framework (2018)*, with previous route planning undertaken by the Department of Transport and Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale.

The findings from this work were provided to Main Roads to inform the current planning study, which commenced in 2019.

The planning study originally formed part of the Tonkin Highway Extension project from Thomas Road to South Western Highway, however in November 2020, it was separated into a standalone project following feedback from stakeholders and the community.

This separation alleviated pressure to expedite the corridor selection and has allowed for more detailed investigations into corridor options before further engagement with the community.

The planning work in 2020 identified two rail alignment options for consideration that were circulated to the community and stakeholders (see map overleaf for "Option 1" and "Option 2").

Planning work during 2021

The planning work this year has involved more detailed assessments of the corridor options, including an additional option (see map overleaf for "Option 3") and a historical option (see map for "Option 0"). The work has also included environment and heritage studies, and further consultation with technical stakeholders at PTA, Arc Infrastructure and Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale.

This has enabled us to prepare more information for the community (including affected landowners) as part of the 2021 consultation program.

The corridor option information allows for identification, discussion and feedback on the potential impacts of a realigned freight rail line, potential land requirements, associated works that may be required on the local road network, and connectivity for adjacent residential, farming, commercial and recreational areas.

Community feedback will be considered in the assessment of social, engineering, environmental and value for money criteria, leading to a preferred corridor being recommended to the State Government.

The outcome will inform a Planning Control Area (PCA) which will be established to protect the land for the railway reservation, providing certainty for landowners, Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale and the State Government.

In addition, it will inform the future rail reserve within the Metropolitan Regional Scheme (MRS). Further development and costing will then be undertaken as part of statutory processes, including initiation of a Rail Enabling Act to enable construction in the future.



Have your say

We are keen to seek feedback from the community and adjacent property owners about the corridor options.

An online survey will be available during November and December 2021 on the project's webpage at <https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/mfrr>

You can also email us at enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au or phone 138 138 to speak to our community engagement representative.

Information sessions

We are holding community information sessions in November and December 2021, where project team members will be available to discuss the planning study.

We can also assist you to complete the online survey or you can lodge a written submission.

The community information sessions are scheduled for:

- Saturday 27 November – 9am to 12noon, Serpentine Jarrahdale Community Resource Centre, Mundijong
- Wednesday 1 December – 5.30pm to 8pm, Serpentine Jarrahdale Community Resource Centre, Mundijong
- Online session – see our project website at <https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/mfrr> to express your interest

What's next?

Newsletters are being sent to approximately 900 property owners in Mundijong and Mardella in an area bounded by Kargotich Road, Bishop Road, Wright Road and south of Lowlands Road to raise awareness about the upcoming community engagement program.

We anticipate completing the corridor selection element of the freight rail realignment planning study in early 2022, when we will be able to provide greater certainty for property owners and the community.

Funding is allocated to the current planning work to enable the land for the future rail to be reserved within the MRS. There is currently no construction funding allocated.

Other projects in the area

Tonkin Highway Extension

Planning and development work is being finalised to extend Tonkin Highway from Thomas Road to South Western Highway, creating a high standard north-south transport link.

Funding has been allocated for its construction, which is expected to commence construction in 2023.

You can find further information at <https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/tonkin-hwy-extension>

Tonkin Highway south to Pinjarra

The *Perth & Peel @3.5M Sub-Regional Planning Framework (2018)* also proposes that in the long-term, Tonkin Highway will be extended south of Mundijong Road along a new alignment and ultimately to Pinjarra.

As part of the rail realignment planning study, a short section of Tonkin Highway immediately south of Mundijong Road will be investigated to ensure integration with the proposed rail realignment.

However, the proposed extension to Tonkin Highway further south to Pinjarra will require an extensive route selection planning study in the future. No further planning work is programmed or funded for this project at this time. The planning, design and construction of this project is considered a very long-term proposal.

Further information

Further project updates can be found on our project webpage at <https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/mfrr>

Register for email updates on the project under the "My Subscriptions" tab on the Main Roads website.

Main Roads can be contacted at enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au or on 138 138.

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November 2021
Indicative image subject to change

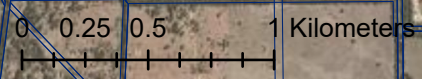
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Bishop Road

Tonkin Highway

Mundijong Road



Legend

Freight Rail

- Existing
- All Options
- Option 0 (superseded)
- Option 1
- Option 2
- Option 3

Tonkin Highway Extension

- Road Alignment
- Future Alignment

Boundaries

- Cadastre

Wright Road

Lowlands Road