

PROJECT UPDATE
APRIL 2024

Tonkin Highway Extension and Thomas Road Upgrade



The \$1.045 billion Tonkin Highway Extension and Thomas Road Upgrade is jointly funded by the Australian (\$755 million) and Western Australian (\$290 million) Governments.

The extension of Tonkin Highway will provide an efficient, direct connection to South Western Highway, improving access, safety and travel times for commuters and freight.

It will attract heavy traffic away from local roads, creating safer and quieter local communities.

Congestion will be reduced on Thomas Road through the provision of dual carriageways and upgraded intersections.

- ✓ Save up to 5 minutes on a trip from Oakford to Mundijong.
- ✓ Eliminate up to four sets of traffic lights between Oakford and Mundijong.

Upcoming community information sessions

Now that the projects have moved into procurement, community information sessions are planned to provide an update on project delivery, provide more information on key themes from the 2023 community information sessions, and are an opportunity to ask the delivery team questions.

They will be similar to the 2023 drop-in sessions, where people can come and go during the timeslot. There will not be a formal presentation.

The sessions are scheduled for:

- 25 May 2024, 10am to 12pm, Serpentine Jarrahdale Community Resource Centre, Mundijong
- 29 May 2024, 5pm to 7pm, Byford Dome first floor

An online survey will be conducted during May and June to provide a further opportunity for people to view the material and have your say.

Project delivery update

Procurement is underway to secure contractors to deliver the projects.

The projects are being delivered together due to the timing of development and delivery, overlap of stakeholders and geographical location.

Procurement has been split into two contract packages that will be delivered at the same time.

- Package 1 – Tonkin Highway Extension project from Thomas Road to Mundijong Road, and the Thomas Road Upgrade project from Kargotich Road to Alexander Road.
- Package 2 – Tonkin Highway Extension project from Mundijong Road to South Western Highway.

The Package 1 Expressions of Interest (EOI) closed for contractors in December 2023, and the Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued in March 2024.

The Package 2 EOI was advertised in March 2024.

Alliance contracts are expected to be awarded by late 2024. Construction of both Packages is anticipated to commence in 2025.

Several other activities are also underway including:

- Contract documentation
- Geotechnical investigations
- Environmental Management Plans
- Noise Assessment Report
- Meetings with service providers
- Replacement Materials Strategy
- Heritage Risk Assessments
- Community engagement
- Local government engagement
- Land acquisition
- Interface meetings with Public Transport Authority (PTA) and Arc Infrastructure.

Environmental approvals and land acquisition is ongoing.

The Transport Portfolio Land and Property Services team has made contact with all affected landowners regarding land acquisition.

Recycled and alternative materials

From a sustainability perspective, the projects are focusing on ensuring the materials used to construct the project can be deconstructed and repurposed, ensuring the lifecycle of the materials chosen is considered.

A Replacement Materials Strategy is being developed to maximise the amount of recycled and alternative materials used in project delivery. The Strategy aims to demonstrate the sustainable benefits of using alternative materials on an infrastructure project, not just environmentally, but socially and economically.

A gap analysis and market sounding activities are being undertaken to identify priority areas and materials that are to be targeted across the program, as well as current barriers and opportunities.

Potential materials being considered are:

- Recovered Road Base Materials
- Crushed Recycled Concrete
- Surplus material from other transport projects
- Crumb rubber
- Recycled Plastic Products
- Recycled, Recovered and/or Manufactured Sand Products
- Brick and Tile
- Geopolymer Concrete/ Alkali Activated Binder Concrete
- Low Carbon Concrete

These are potential materials, however, and are yet to be finalised.

Noise impacts and mitigations

We understand that noise impacts are a topic of importance for the local community. Noise monitoring and modelling has been undertaken using the concept design to determine current and future noise levels in accordance with *State Planning Policy 5.4 Road and Rail Noise (SPP5.4)*.

The delivery contractor will reassess road noise levels in accordance with *SPP5.4* using the detailed design that will be developed as part of the project. Landowner consultation will then be undertaken in relation to noise treatments.

At the end of construction and the roads are operating, noise will again be assessed to ensure noise mitigations are performing as intended.

Further information

You can contact the project team on 138 138 or at enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au. The project webpage is available at <https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/tonkin-hwy-extension>. You can also join the email subscription list to receive the latest project news.