



SMART FREEWAYS



Australian Government

BUILDING AUSTRALIA



mainroads
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

What makes our Smart Freeways so smart?

Our Smart Freeways have the latest technology, which alerts our skilled operators to potential congestion so they can take action to keep traffic moving smoothly.

Road Network Operations Centre

Our Operations Centre is responsible for managing traffic flow across the entire metropolitan region. This purpose-built facility is designed to optimise road network safety, performance and congestion management – keeping Perth motorists safe, and making their journey times shorter and more consistent.

The Operations Centre is the hub of our Smart Freeways. Operators can manage changing road conditions, dispatch dedicated Incident Response Vehicles 24/7, or use our electronic signs to close lanes and divert traffic to help emergency service vehicles get through.

Overhead electronic signs

Our electronic signs can be programmed to close lanes, divert traffic into adjoining lanes or temporarily reduce the speed limit in the event of an incident or, when an emergency vehicle needs to pass, making it safer to travel.

Electronic message boards

There are also electronic message boards which are generally left blank until our operators need to notify drivers of changed conditions ahead.

Coordinated ramp signals

The on-ramp traffic signals work the same way as those on suburban roads and highways, only faster. Sensors in the asphalt constantly measure traffic flow on the freeway and communicate with all of the ramp signals. The smart technology determines how much traffic can enter the freeway by varying the red signal time.

As the first car travels through the short green period, the lights turn yellow and then red again. Only one car per green per lane is released to the freeway each time. This helps to keep the freeway moving.

Traffic sensors

Hundreds of sensors have been embedded in our Smart Freeways. These sensors provide valuable real-time data that allows our operators to react and make changes to keep traffic flowing smoothly.

CCTV cameras

Additional CCTV cameras have been installed on our Smart Freeways to give our operators extensive visual coverage of the network.

Further information

For more information about Smart Freeways and how they work in Western Australia visit mainroads.wa.gov.au

Search Smart Freeways at mainroads.wa.gov.au