

# Dongara-Geraldton-Northampton Route Corridor confirmed for next planning phase



Planning for a future road between Dongara, Geraldton and Northampton that is safer, more efficient and enables future growth within the Mid West region and beyond.

Main Roads has confirmed a corridor for the future Dongara-Geraldton-Northampton (DGN) route, for further investigation as part of the Alignment Definition phase of road planning.

Consultation with landowners, key stakeholders and the broader community, as well as a comprehensive assessment of options against social, cultural, environmental and economic criteria, has helped us select a corridor that will allow us to define a future road alignment to divert heavy vehicles away from regional

townsites, minimise conflicts with local traffic and contribute to greater freight efficiency by enabling triple road trains to travel between Carnarvon and Muchea.

Nominally 500 metres wide, the confirmed investigation corridor provides an envelope for a future road alignment and will eventually be reduced to a nominally 100 metre wide road reservation. This allows flexibility during the next phase of planning, enabling us to respond to local constraints and conditions.



## What's next?

Further planning work will now get underway to develop an ultimate planning design concept for the future road, confirming a nominally 100 metre wide road reservation and final land requirements.

Known as Alignment Definition, this phase of the road planning process typically includes more detailed ground investigations, as well as environmental and heritage surveys, and these are expected to occur over the next three years.

Alignment Definition will be underpinned by further consultation with landowners within and adjacent to the corridor, to identify how a future road can be designed to best meet community, environmental, safety, efficiency and property-specific needs. It will also carefully consider how to mitigate unavoidable impacts.

To provide greater certainty to landowners, communities and industry, and support future planning, Main Roads will then seek to include the road reservation in relevant planning documentation.

It is important to note that this is a high-level planning study and there are currently no funds available for project development and construction. The route to the north of Geraldton is considered a priority and no construction is currently expected to be required in the section between Dongara and Geraldton in the short to medium-term.

## Benefits of a new route

- Increased freight efficiency by reducing travel time and operating costs
- Reduced crash numbers and improved safety for road users and regional communities by removing heavy vehicles from town centres
- Support for population and economic growth in the State's Mid West and north-western regions

## Further information

[www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/dgnroute](http://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/dgnroute)

# How consultation has influenced the route planning process

The confirmed corridor is the result of many years of planning. Options for upgrading existing roads and creating new roads on various alignments have all been carefully considered at each stage of the planning process. Key steps in the road planning process and community and stakeholder consultation undertaken since 2015 are outlined below.

## 2015

**Three route options south of Moonyoonoka and three route options north of Geraldton – all using the ONIC as the central link - released for consultation**

**Consider feedback, further planning and review with government stakeholders to identify single preferred corridor**

## 2020-21

**Single preferred corridor (combination of two options released in 2015) released for consultation. This corridor used a new inland route to the south of Moonyoonooka and followed the North West Coastal Highway alignment to the north of Geraldton**

**Consider feedback, further planning investigations to identify optimised investigation corridor between Dongara and Moonyoonooka**

## 2022

**Optimised investigation corridor that avoids the main Walkaway townsite released for consultation**

**Consider feedback, identify key issues and opportunities for consideration in Alignment Definition**

## 2023

**Preferred corridor endorsed by State Government**

## Next Step

**Complete Alignment Definition to define the road reservation and finalise land requirements**

# The confirmed investigation corridor for a future Dongara-Geraldton-Northampton Route



