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CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

September/October 2026



Orton Road western approach and Timbrel Road connection.

Building connections across the Tonkin Highway Extension and Thomas Road Upgrade Project

Major construction is progressing across the project, with bridge structures, underpasses and key road connections taking shape. Pavement and road construction is continuing along Tonkin Highway, Thomas Road, Abernethy Road, Orton Road, Mundijong Road and South Western Highway, including the placement of permanent asphalt. These works are supporting the ongoing construction of the final road network and enabling staged traffic management arrangements to help maintain connectivity and traffic movements during construction.



Works progressing at the Bishop Road interchange.

What's happening now?

Current activities across the project area include:

- Bulk earthworks, including the placement, shaping, and compaction of materials.
- Noise and screen wall installations, including piling and foundation works.
- Utility relocation works, including power, water and communications.
- Construction of retaining walls and installation of drainage infrastructure, including rock pitching and culverts.
- Pavement construction works, including subgrade preparation and subbase placement.
- Utility works, including the installation of conduits and the relocation and protection of existing services.

Tonkin Highway and Thomas Road

The Thomas Road interchange is continuing to take shape, with multiple structural footings now poured for the Thomas Road bridge over Tonkin Highway. These footings will support the pier columns, which are expected to be progressively poured from September. In total, 18 pier columns and two abutment walls will be constructed across five footings to support the bridge above.



Footing for the Thomas Road bridge over Tonkin Highway.

Three of the five pedestrian and cyclist underpasses at the Thomas Road interchange have now been installed, with backfill works underway to support future road construction. Installation of the remaining underpasses will occur as construction progresses across the interchange.

Pavement works continue on the new southbound lanes of Tonkin Highway, with road tie-in works expected to commence in October 2026. This will require southbound traffic on Tonkin Highway to operate in a contraflow arrangement for one weekend between Rowley Road and Thomas Road. As part of this traffic arrangement, the Rowley Road intersection with Tonkin Highway will be temporarily closed, with traffic diverted via detour routes. Further information, including closure details and available detours, will be provided before works commence.

These tie-in works are an important stage in constructing the new Tonkin Highway southbound lanes, helping to maintain traffic movements in the area during future construction activities, including the new northbound lanes and the Thomas Road bridge over Tonkin Highway.

Along Thomas Road, the median modification works at Kargotich Road will enable eastbound traffic to be shifted to the westbound lanes, allowing permanent construction of the new eastbound lanes between Kargotich Road and Tonkin Highway to continue. Once complete in early-2027, traffic will be shifted to the eastbound lanes, allowing construction of the westbound lanes to commence.

Abernethy Road and Timbrel Road Intersection

The concrete footings for Tonkin Highway bridge over Abernethy Road have been poured. These footings will support the abutment walls, which are expected to arrive to site in early-2027. Once installed, the abutments will enable construction of the bridge deck and road.

Drainage works have been progressing within the project area, with pavement works expected to start at the new Abernethy Road and Timbrel Road (formerly Hopkinson Road) roundabout during October 2026. As the roundabout is located slightly north of the current intersection, road tie-ins are required to be completed before the roundabout can be opened.

The project is proposing to coordinate these works in alignment with the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale's planned closure of Abernethy Road from mid-October 2026.

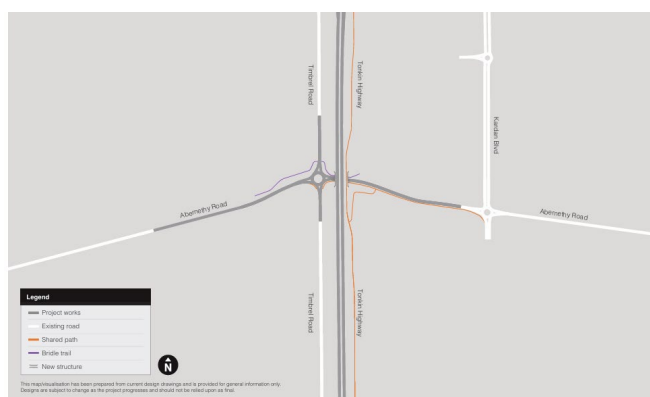


Abernethy Road and Timbrel Road intersection.

Planned temporary closure of Abernethy Road

To coordinate with the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale's proposed closure of Abernethy Road for pavement rehabilitation and road upgrade works, the project is planning to close sections of Abernethy Road and Timbrel Road from 19 October 2026 to January 2027.

During the closure, the project team will construct the new road tie-ins required for the Abernethy Road realignment and new Timbrel Road roundabout.



New Abernethy Road and Timbrel Road intersection.

The closure is expected to commence following the reopening of Orton Road, west of Timbrel Road.

Bushfire safety and emergency response remain key considerations in the planning process. The project team is working closely with the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) to ensure emergency access routes are maintained during construction and are incorporated into the final road design.

Plans detailing the proposed closures and detour routes can be accessed at <https://www.sjshire.wa.gov.au/publicnotices/>.

These planned works are subject to the outcome of a Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale public notice.

Community Information Sessions

We will be back out in the community at our next Community Information Session in September.

Wednesday, 16 September 2026

4.00pm – 7.00pm

Bill Hicks Pavilion, Corner of Portwine Avenue and Spearmint Drive, Byford

This session will have a specific focus on upcoming traffic management arrangements in the northern section of the project, including Abernethy Road and the Thomas Road intersection upgrades.

Orton Road to Scott Road

Pavement works are progressing on the new Orton Road connection to Timbrel Road, and the approach west of the upgraded Orton Road and Tonkin Highway intersection. Kerbing, drainage pits and barrier installation is expected throughout September, ahead of asphaltting works in reopening of the intersection in October 2026.

To tie-in the new Orton Road alignment with Timbrel Road, a closure of Timbrel Road between Orton Road and south of Bullock Drive is required from early-November 2026 to January 2027. These works will support construction of the future stages of the Orton Road and Tonkin Highway intersection.

East of Timbrel Road, earthworks are continuing for the new road alignment, including the roundabout, and pedestrian bridge abutments, which will enable construction of the shared path bridge over Orton Road.

Piling for the shared path bridge over Orton Road are expected to start in September 2026, with pier columns expected to be poured in late-2026. These structures will support the shared path bridge deck that will be installed in early 2027.

The abutment wall footings for the pedestrian and equine underpass at Gossage Road are also due to be poured mid-September, ahead of the abutment walls be poured in October 2026. These structures will support Tonkin Highway over the shared path connection and equine underpass at Gossage Road, with the bridge deck due to be installed in early 2027.



Works underway on the Gossage Road underpass.

The base slab for the shared path underpass at Bishop Road has been poured, with the precast elements scheduled to be installed during October. In addition, the first footings for the Bishop Road interchange are being poured during September.

Mundijong Road to South Western Highway

The new Mundijong Road alignment and Tonkin Highway roundabout is taking shape, with drainage installed and pavement works underway. Drainage lids and kerbing will be installed throughout October, followed by final asphalt in November, ahead of Mundijong Road reopening in December 2026.



Mundijong Road

Piling for the Wright Road bridge is expected to start during September and continue into early 2027. This is for the abutments and pier columns across the freight rail and Wright Road.

Different piling methods are required during construction, including bored piling, sheet piling and Controlled Modulus Columns (CMC).

- Bored piling involves drilling deep holes that are backfilled with reinforcing steel and concrete to create strong foundations.

- Sheet piling involves installing interlocking steel sheets into the ground to form retaining walls, which may involve vibrating or driving the sheets into place.
- CMC involves drilling into the ground and forming cementitious columns within the soil to strengthen the ground and provide additional support. The columns are formed as the drilling equipment progresses through the ground, creating a strengthened section of soil.

Each method uses different equipment and techniques, meaning the level and type of construction noise and vibration can vary.

Asphalting works are underway at the new Tonkin Highway and South Western Highway intersection, with drainage lids, kerbing, line marking and other finishing works occurring before traffic is shifted onto the permanent northbound alignment in October 2026, enabling works to start on the southbound lanes. Further details will be provided ahead of the switch.



Asphalting at South Western Highway

Further information

Subscribe for updates, visit the project page, or follow us on social media. Have any questions or feedback? Get in touch via the options below.

W: mainroads.wa.gov.au/projects-initiatives/all-projects/metropolitan/tonkin-highway-extension-and-thomas-road-upgrade/

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