

WILMAN WADANDI HIGHWAY

This project update contains information regarding the current and future works taking place, recent events, and other business-related news on the Wilman Wadandi Highway (the Bunbury Outer Ring Road project), including the latest figures in spend and committed spend with local and Aboriginal businesses. Information within this update is current as of June 2025 and is subject to change. For the most recent updates available, visit the Main Roads website or the Wilman Wadandi Highway (Bunbury Outer Ring Road Project) Community Facebook Group.



Finishing Works and Next Steps

The Wilman Wadandi Highway officially opened to traffic on 16 December 2024, marking a significant milestone as the largest road infrastructure project ever delivered in the South West. Spanning 27 kilometres between Forrest Highway and Bussell Highway, the project is enhancing safety, improving travel efficiency, and supporting more reliable journeys for freight operators, tourists, and locals alike.

While the highway has been fully operational since December to ensure early access to its benefits, finishing works have continued since January 2025.

Landscaping has continued over the winter months, and further works are scheduled for October 2025, including the application of Stone Mastic Asphalt (SMA) which is a quieter surface treatment along

sections of Bussell Highway, and sealing works on select local roads, subject to weather conditions.

The final coat bitumen seal for the Wilman Wadandi Highway is scheduled for early 2026. An initial primer seal was applied to protect the pavement, acting as a temporary wearing surface for traffic. The one-year gap between the primer and final seals is standard industry practice and ensures that the final seal adheres properly, resulting in a more durable, weather-resistant road surface.

Since opening, the highway has successfully diverted an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 vehicles daily from local Bunbury roads, reducing congestion and improving safety for surrounding communities. Updated traffic data shows notable reductions in heavy vehicle volumes on Bussell Highway and Forrest Highway, particularly near Hasties Road, Centenary Road, and Robertson Drive.

By easing pressure on the local road network, travel time savings of up to 39% have emerged as traffic redistributes, and road users adjust to the new route. As finishing works are completed and travel patterns continue to stabilise, the full benefits of the highway will become increasingly visible.

Shared Path Network Now Open

The Principal Shared Path (PSP) network now provides safe and accessible routes for path users across the project area. The network includes:

- PSP from Willinge Drive to Lillydale Road along the Wilman Wadandi Highway.
- Shared path along Willinge Drive between the Highway and South Western Highway.
- PSP along the new section of Lillydale Road through to Bussell Highway.

These high-quality paths are surfaced with laterite asphalt, giving a red-brown tone that blends into the surrounding landscape while providing a smooth riding surface.

For more information on the path networks, check out a video showing the routes [here](#).



The PSP near the Lillydale Road roundabout shortly after opening.

Urban Design and Public Art

Throughout the alignment, the Highway features extensive public art and urban design that celebrates Noongar culture, local landscapes and the six seasons.

This includes noise wall murals in Waterloo painted by local Noongar artists Shirley Michael and Glen Garlett. These two artists have designed and painted the noise wall on the north western side of the highway, merging their unique artistic visions. The artwork depicts a cohesive and vibrant representation of Noongar culture, and their partnership brings together Shirley's expressive depiction of the natural world and Glen's deep connection to traditional practices resulting in a powerful visual narrative honouring their shared heritage and the significance of the land.

To find out more about the artwork along the Highway, view our Project Publications and News on the [Project Page](#).



A section of the noise wall in Waterloo with artwork by Shirley Michael and Glen Garlett.

A Lasting Legacy for the South West

Beyond transport improvements, the project has delivered significant economic and social benefits for the South West:

- \$632.2 million spent across 393 local businesses
- \$61.9 million spent with 33 Aboriginal businesses.

The project's flagship Yaka Dandjoo Sustainable Employment Program supported over 191 participants, 57% of whom identified as Aboriginal people and 55% of whom were women. Many have gone on to secure meaningful employment, apprenticeships, and long-term training opportunities.

These efforts were recently recognised with two awards:

- The 2025 Banksia National Sustainability Award for Supply Chain and Responsible Procurement.
- The NAWIC WA Diversity and Inclusion Award for the Yaka Dandjoo program.

We are proud of these outcomes and grateful to every local worker, business, and community member who contributed to them.



The project team representatives at the National Banksia Sustainability Awards.

What's Next?

As finishing works draw to an end, we are beginning to wind down our dedicated communication channels.

Please note that the dedicated project number 1800 979 770, will be disconnected on 30 September 2025 and there will be communication via the project Facebook Community Group regarding its wind down.

For all future enquiries relating to the Wilman Wadandi Highway, please contact Main Roads Customer Information Centre on 138 138 or email enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au to be connected with the project team.