Wilman Wadandi Highway (the Bunbury Outer Ring Road project)

**BUILDING AUSTRALIA** 

#### **PROJECT UPDATE**

**November 2024** 



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 November 2024 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.

**Australian Government** 



### **Construction update**

The Wilman Wadandi Highway (the Bunbury Outer Ring Road project) has entered its final stages of construction and is preparing to open to traffic on 16 December 2024.

Artwork across the project is coming to life, with painting underway at multiple locations. In the north, artists Andrew Frazer and Kyle Hughes are working on their designs in Picton East. Both are inspired by the Noongar season of Bunuru, which is the 'secondsummer' period from February to March, and is the hottest time of the year. Further south, painting of lan Mutch's artwork on the Bussell Highway interchange has also commenced recently, bringing more colour to many drivers' commutes.



Andrew Frazer's artwork under the 'mega-bridge' in **Picton East** 











Construction of noise and screen walls is also ongoing across the project. As of the end of October, 80% of the 'post and panel' noise walls have been completed.

Landscaping and planting has now concluded for this year, with the project installing over 300,000 native plants in 2024. Our team continue monitoring these plants over summer and conduct maintenance activities including organic hand tonics, pruning, hand weeding, and infill planting and seeding.

Several new sections of local road are opening in November to provide detour routes during temporary road closures. These include the Willinge extension between South Western Highway (south) and the existing Bunbury Outer Ring Road, and the section of Lillydale Road which connects to Jules Road via a new link.

As the project nears completion, there will be an increased number of traffic changes and road opening announcements. Make sure you are subscribed to our mailing list and are in our Facebook group to get all the latest information.

#### **Local and Aboriginal business spend update**

As of 31 October 2024, the project has committed to spend \$612.1 million with local businesses and has an



actual spend of \$558 million. The project's target spend of \$450 million was surpassed in April 2024.

\$57.1 million in spend has been committed to Aboriginal businesses with \$54.4 million spent to date. The project's target spend with Aboriginal businesses was \$30 million.

375 local and 33 Aboriginal businesses have been engaged to date.

### **Discover the Wilman Wadandi Highway**

To prepare for the opening of the highway we have hosted several community drop-in sessions where anyone can explore the new 'virtual' road network. There is just one session left. The time and location is listed below.

To find out more about the drop-in sessions or to view the interactive map, please visit Wilman Wadandi Highway | Main Roads Western Australia.

Date	Time	Location
Saturday 7	10am – 2pm	South West
December 2024		Sports Centre   1
		Rotary Drive,
		Withers
		Withers





### What's been happening on the project

Check out our latest stories from the project.

### **Looking back at Yaka Dandjoo**

The Yaka Dandjoo ready-for-work program's final cohort of trainees graduated in March 2024. Let's look back at the program and see how it positively contributed to the local employment, training and sustainability targets.

Click here to learn about this unique program.



# A bike path on the Wilman Wadandi Highway? Yes, wheely!

Hold onto your handlebars! The Wilman Wadandi Highway will feature 17 kilometres of path network including a principal shared path (PSP), to significantly enhance cycling infrastructure in the South West region.

Read all about the new network here.



# **Engineering on the wild side – Gelorup fauna land bridge taking shape**

Significant progress is continuing on the Gelorup Fauna Land Bridge, one of 12 bridges being built as part of the Wilman Wadandi Highway. This bridge, designed to support the wildlife crossing and assist in maintaining local biodiversity, is unique due to its features in both construction methods and design choices.

<u>Click here to learn about this unique</u> <u>structure.</u>















### **Future builders: school students step** into the world of construction

In September, the team held three events with various schools and welcomed over 30 kids onsite, giving students the opportunity to see the region's biggest road infrastructure project and have a hands-on experience learning about the construction industry.

Click here to learn about their visit to the project.



## **Introducing 'Transition' – the latest** artwork to be unveiled on the Wilman **Wadandi Highway**

Designed and painted by Kyle Hughes-Odgers, the screen walls on the northern side of the mega-bridge will feature a unique design which ties into the project's Urban Design strategy.

Read all about the artwork here.



## For more information on the Wilman Wadandi Highway (the Bunbury Outer Ring Road project)

If you have any questions, please contact 138 138 or email enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au.



