The project is currently experiencing a busy works period with construction to extend Mitchell Freeway six kilometres north to Hester Avenue in Clarkson progressing well.

Construction of the bridges at Burns Beach Road, Neerabup Road and Hester Avenue has commenced, with current activities focused on building the footings, piers and bridge abutments. In addition, the team are also constructing fauna and pedestrian underpasses and noise walls. The team is working towards the significant milestone of installing the first bridge beams at Hester Avenue in the middle of the year.

Major earthworks continue across the project and the alignment of the new freeway will start to take shape in the coming months as pavement construction activities get underway.

Local road improvements are making headway with traffic switches planned in the coming months for Hester Avenue and Wanneroo Road to allow the next stage of the upgrades to progress. Road users are encouraged to take care when travelling along these roads as changed traffic conditions will be in place.

Mitchell Freeway Extension is a $261.4 million project funded by the Australian ($209.1 million) and West Australian ($52.3 million) Governments and will support the continued commercial and residential growth in Perth’s northern suburbs.
FAUNA UNDERPASSES

As part of the project we are installing eight fauna underpasses so fauna can safely cross Neerabup Road, Wanneroo Road and Hester Avenue.

The locations of the underpasses were determined through a Fauna Movement Study in consultation with the Department of Environment, Parks and Wildlife and local environmental groups.

The underpasses provide connectivity within Neerabup National Park and between the National Park and Neerabup Lake.

Constructed of precast concrete pipes and culverts, the underpasses will have logs and sand placed inside them to encourage fauna to use them.

We are progressively installing the fauna underpasses as the construction staging allows, with a number of underpasses already complete along Neerabup Road and the remainder to be installed this year.

Two of the underpasses, at Hester Avenue and Neerabup Road, will link with the Yaberoo Budjara Heritage Trail. These underpasses can also be used by trail users to safely cross these busy roads.

The underpasses range between 1.2 and 4 metres high to accommodate fauna of various sizes.

...the underpasses will have logs and sand placed inside them to encourage fauna to use them.

PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE ARTWORK FINALISED

The design of the public artwork to be installed along Burns Beach Road pedestrian bridge has recently been finalised by artists from Edith Cowan University.

The artwork will involve the installation of ceramic tiles at intervals along the walking surface of the bridge. The design of the tiles reflects the themes of local fauna and flora and also uses ideas developed by students from Kinross College.

A highly accurate water jet machine will be used to cut the tiles before they are transported to site and installed.

Burns Beach Road pedestrian bridge and the tiles will be installed by project completion in mid-2017.

One in a series of four artworks to be installed in Burns Beach Road footbridge using ceramic tiles.
IN FOCUS:

HESTER AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS

Upgrade works are in full swing along Hester Avenue to accommodate the new access to Mitchell Freeway.

The work is located between Wanneroo Road and Porongorup Drive and includes:

- Widening to provide two lanes in each direction;
- Constructing roundabouts at Ridgewood Boulevard intersection and the freeway on and off-ramps;
- Installing a new bridge over the train line;
- Extending and adding turning lanes at Wanneroo Road intersection;
- Reconstructing Hidden Valley Retreat intersection;
- Installing a shared pedestrian and cyclist underpass; and
- Installing a fauna underpass.

To safely deliver these upgrades and maintain traffic flow along Hester Avenue, work is taking place in stages. Temporary traffic changes, including speed restrictions and closures, will be in place along Hester Avenue until mid-2017. We encourage road users to take care when travelling through the area and follow all traffic management in place.

Design of Hester Avenue being delivered as part of the project.

Aerial view looking south from the location of the future Mitchell Freeway/Neerabup Road interchange.

Construction of the Hester Avenue bridge footings are underway.

The installation of the foundations for the shared bus and pedestrian underpass along Neerabup Road near Clarkson Station are in progress.
NOISE WALLS TAKE SHAPE
Works are progressing well to install almost five kilometres of noise walls to reduce traffic noise and provide privacy screening for local residents where required.

Most of the noise walls are being constructed of reconstituted limestone blocks and are located on the western side of the new freeway between Burns Beach and Hester Avenue.

We expect to have most of the walls completed by mid-2016.

Want to know more about the noise walls?
Visit the project page at www.mainroads.wa.gov.au and view the noise wall information sheet.

NOISE WALLS IN NUMBERS
Total number of limestone blocks = 53,000
Size of each block = 1000mm x 350mm x 350mm
Amount of concrete in the wall footings = 1200m³
Height of walls = between 2.4 metres and 3.6 metres high

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How many lanes will be constructed as part of the freeway extension?
There will be two lanes in each direction between Burns Beach Road and Hester Avenue with provision for a third lane in each direction in the future.

Will the noise walls have an anti-graffiti coating applied to them?
Yes, the noise walls will have an anti-graffiti coating applied to them.
The anti-graffiti coating will be clear and will prevent graffiti paint bonding to the wall allowing for easy removal.

What are the works being undertaken along Wanneroo Road and when will they be finished?
Wanneroo Road between Hall Road and Flynn Drive is being widened to allow two lanes in each direction.
The existing carriageway of Wanneroo Road is being retained for use by local traffic to safely access the adjacent properties.
These works are expected to be completed by mid-2017.

REGISTER FOR PROJECT UPDATES
Want the latest project news delivered straight to your inbox? Register for updates at MFEenquiries@cpbcon.com.au.

FURTHER INFORMATION
If you would like to know more about the Mitchell Freeway Extension, please visit the project page at mainroads.wa.gov.au.