PROJECT UPDATE OCTOBER 2021





EastLink WA Planning and Development



EastLink WA is a culmination of more than 40 years of road planning activities to provide a safer, more efficient route from Perth to Northam for freight and road users. It will allow users to travel at a consistent speed through bridged intersections and a dual carriageway, deliver major travel time savings, and enable access for RAV 7 heavy vehicles (36.5m combinations) between Perth and Northam.

The project is currently in the Planning and Development phase, which will take place over three years and involve planning studies, design refinement and scoping to produce preliminary designs for the route. This detailed planning and development work is needed to establish a business case and inform future investment decisions.

Meeting with community

We've been engaging stakeholders and communities along the alignment and gaining a better appreciation about local issues and aspirations for the project.

We held a series of information sessions in Gidgegannup, Wooroloo, Bakers Hill and online for landowners within the investigation area for the project. We had more than 80 landowners attend the sessions to learn more about the environmental investigations currently underway and take the opportunity to raise any local issues or concerns with the project team. We met with more than 110 local residents on Saturday 11 September at the Gidgegannup Hall. This was our second community drop-in following the first event in Northam in June. We shared maps of the alignment and talked about what people can expect from the planning and development of the project.

The community told us about local and regional issues, which included feedback on the alignment, mitigating noise, protecting the semi-rural amenity and minimising the impact on the environment. Our discussions also allowed us to understand how people use the local road network and where their important connections are including the use of the Kep Track and surrounding trails.

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We're working for Western Australia. The next opportunities to view the alignment plans and discuss the project with members of the team are:

Bakers Hill Community Drop-In

When: Saturday 16 October 2021

Where: Bakers Hill Recreation Centre

Time: 10am to 2pm

Gidgegannup Show

When: Saturday 30 October 2021

Where: Gidgegannup Showgrounds

Time: 9am to 5pm

We will continue to engage communities along the alignment in different ways to inform the environmental assessments and to help refine preliminary designs for the route.



Funding for Reid Highway interchanges

As part of the State Government's 2021-22 State Budget, funding was provided for the construction of grade separated interchanges on Reid Highway at Altone Road, and at Daviot Road / Drumpellier Drive. This \$225 million project is jointly funded (50% each) by the State and Australian Governments. Project development is continuing with a view to commencing construction during 2023.

\$175 million in funding has also been committed by the State and Australian Governments (50% each) for a grade separated interchange on Reid Highway, at West Swan Road / Henley Brook Avenue.

While the Reid Highway interchanges have been allocated construction funding, the section from Roe Highway to Northam remains a long-term proposal.

Flora and fauna studies

We have commenced environmental studies along the alignment. Our field teams are surveying a wide range of values including flora and fauna and some of this survey work is taking place on private property. We've been working closely with landowners to survey their property and appreciate their time and permission to undertake these important studies.

Outcomes from environmental and engineering-based studies will be considered alongside social factors and will inform the relevant environmental assessments for the project, complying with all local, State and Commonwealth legislation and regulatory frameworks.

More information and get in touch

For the latest project information, visit our website <u>www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/eastlinkwa</u>. We will continue to keep you informed throughout the project, in the meantime, if you have questions or feedback to share you can get in touch with us on **138 138** or email us at **enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au**.

www.mainroads.wa.gov.au



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