As part of the High Street Upgrade, two pedestrian underpasses will be constructed, one at Forrest Street and another at Montreal Street. Both underpasses will improve pedestrian and cyclist connectivity and provide safe crossing points at Stirling Highway and High Street.

**Forrest Street underpass construction**

The underpass at Forrest Street will be constructed in stages to maintain traffic flow along Stirling Highway.

**Image 1: First stage of Forrest Street underpass construction**

The first stage is currently underway and involves temporarily re-aligning Stirling Highway to the east and removing the median, as shown in the map above.

Once Stirling Highway is re-aligned, traffic will be shifted east, as shown in Image 2. This will enable construction of the western third of the underpass, including ramps, stairs and retaining walls.

**Image 2: Second stage of Forrest Street underpass construction**

Once the western third of the underpass is constructed, new northbound lanes will be built. Construction of the centre third of the underpass will then commence. Northbound traffic will travel on new western side lanes and southbound traffic will travel on the temporary eastern side lanes on Stirling Highway.

The eastern third of the underpass, including ramps and stairs will be constructed last.

As works progress, residents and road users will be updated about changes to traffic conditions and works zones.
Clearing

While the project has been designed to retain as many established trees as possible, some clearing is required to construct the Forrest Street underpass.

Clearing is required to construct the underpass, and associated ramps, stairs and structures, and temporarily re-align Stirling Highway.

The majority of the clearing comprises non-native, planted vegetation in the Main Roads reserve. However, a small number of established trees will also be removed as part of the works, in accordance with the project’s Environmental Approval.

Main Roads has announced two key tree-planting initiatives, which will result in the planting of approximately 5,000 new plants in Booyeembara Park and a broader planting initiative at other sites in WA. More than 200 new tuart trees will be planted for each tuart tree removed by the project. For further information on both tree planting initiatives visit https://project.mainroads.wa.gov/home/.

Pedestrian detours

While the underpass is under construction, the current pedestrian crossings at Forrest Street and Holland Street will be closed. Detours will be in place for the duration of the underpass construction until 2021. The Forrest Street crossing will be detoured via the Marmion Street traffic signals. The Holland Street crossing will be detoured to the Stirling Highway and High Street intersection traffic signals initially, and later via Marmion Street. Please see the map attached for further information. Directional signage will be in place along the detour route.

Next steps

To construct the temporary re-alignment of Stirling Highway, clearing has been completed and construction of the new re-aligned of new lanes is underway. This will involve using earthworks machinery such as excavators, trucks and rollers using low vibration mode. Water trucks will also be used to manage dust.

After traffic is switched to the temporary re-alignment, works will commence on the eastern side of Stirling Highway, as shown in Figure 2 overleaf. This is expected to commence in April.

After-hours work

From Wednesday 1 April to Wednesday 15 April 2020 (not including the Easter long weekend) after-hours works will be required to work safely and minimise disruption to day-time traffic. After-hours lane closures will be required to construct sections of the Stirling Highway re-alignment closest to existing traffic lanes.

These works will occur between 6pm and 7am Monday to Saturday morning. Speeds will be reduced to 40 km/h surrounding the works.

Traffic will be switched to the temporary lanes from the evening of Wednesday 15 April. Clear signage will be in place to guide road users through the new road layout.

These works and vehicle movements throughout the area will likely be noticeable to nearby residents, however every effort will be made to reduce construction noise and vibration where possible.

To minimise disturbance to residents as much as possible, an out-of-hours noise management plan has been prepared by Georgiou for the City of Fremantle. Please proceed with caution at all times, and adhere to the speed limit and directional signage throughout the area.

*Please note that these are projected timeframes and are subject to change due to weather and/or other factors. Regular updates will be posted on the Main Roads website and emailed to those subscribed to project updates. Please plan ahead and allow extra travel time as delays may occur.

Managing construction impacts

During construction, equipment and vehicle movements may create some noise, vibration and dust. To minimise disturbance as much as possible, ongoing monitoring and testing will be undertaken and where necessary, proactive controls will be implemented, including modification of construction activities.

Further information

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

For more information, or to sign-up to receive regular updates via email please visit https://project.mainroads.wa.gov/home/.
Image 3: Forrest Street and Holland Street pedestrian detours