High Street Upgrade

Construction of the High Street Upgrade between Carrington Street and Stirling Highway is underway.

The project is jointly funded by the Australian ($73.62 million) and State ($44.38 million) governments, and is part of the road and rail infrastructure package to improve Perth’s transport network.

Georgiou Group will work closely with Main Roads to deliver the $118m project, following the award of a contract for Design & Construction in December 2019. Detailed design and initial site investigations are currently taking place, with major site works to begin in the coming months.

The project will see:

- A new roundabout at the intersection of High Street and Stirling Highway replacing the existing traffic signals. It includes bypass lanes to separate local traffic from vehicles headed to/from Fremantle Port or areas north of the river. The roundabout will improve efficiency and address safety issues with the current intersection, including reducing the risk of truck rollovers.
- A single lane service road constructed on the northern side of High Street to provide safe access to residential properties.
- New underpasses at Forrest Street and Montreal Street to improve pedestrian and cyclist connectivity across the intersection.
- New formal parking bays adjacent to the Fremantle Netball Association to improve safety on game days.
- A wide, tree-lined median on High Street to separate the eastbound and westbound traffic lanes, providing an attractive gateway into Fremantle.

Main Roads has worked closely with the City of Fremantle and the local community to ensure the project achieves its objectives, while minimising impacts to the surrounding environment.

Through a carefully considered design process, the project can retain more than 70% of established trees in the area, while a landscaping and urban design strategy will include the purchase and planting of 400 new tuart trees in Booyeembara Park and 4,000 tuarts in other key sites across Perth.

**Project status update**

In September 2019, 16 Main Roads’ owned properties close to the intersection of High Street and Stirling Highway were demolished in preparation for the project. We thank the local community for its patience and support during this period. The site is currently secure, with dust suppressant and site fencing in place.

The detailed design of the project is approaching 85%. Construction is anticipated to begin in March, once designs are issued for construction.

In the past month, residents may have noticed some site investigation and survey activities along the road alignment. These low-level, unobtrusive works have been required to confirm site conditions, such as the location of underground services, prior to our mobilisation to site.

In order to construct the project, we have acquired a narrow strip of land along the northern edge of the Fremantle Public Golf Course. This change means that the golf course layout will need to be reconfigured to retain 9 holes of golf and a driving range. The course reconfiguration will be undertaken by a specialist golf course design and project management team, working in close liaison with the City of Fremantle and the golf course management. Initial designs are currently being prepared for review.

**TIMELINE**
Since early 2018, we have carefully refined the concept design to minimise the impact of the project on the environment, particularly established trees. We have worked closely with the City of Fremantle to identify opportunities where we can improve the amenity of the surrounding area.

**MINIMISING IMPACTS ON TREES**

**Overall clearing footprint**
- 245 large trees are located in the project between Carrington Street and Stirling Highway.
- 178 (72%) of these trees will be retained, 67 (28%) will be cleared.

**Nesting hollows**
- No current or potential nesting hollows for black cockatoos are impacted by the project.

**Future potential breeding trees**
- 64 trees are considered future potential breeding trees (noting no evidence of breeding at present).

**Tuart Trees**
- 13 established tuart trees can be saved due to design changes, including specimens close to the Fremantle Netball Centre aged between 40 and 50 years old.

**Design Changes**
- 28 trees to be preserved by incorporating a tree lined median into the design. This will also provide an attractive gateway into Fremantle.

**Landscaping**
We continue to work with the City of Fremantle to develop a landscaping and urban design strategy for the project. This will include extensive planting and revegetation upon completion of the project.
**Working with the community**

We have been working extensively with local stakeholders and the community since funding for this project was announced in mid-2017. We have hosted three drop-in sessions and attended over 100 meetings with residents, the City of Fremantle, community organisations, sporting clubs, as well as Fremantle Ports and key freight operator forums. We thank the community for its interest in the project and we’ve looked to incorporate key areas of feedback wherever possible.

**What you told us**

Key themes from our engagement process are summarised as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Feedback</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Retain as many established trees as possible and minimise clearing                 | • We’ve reviewed and modified the design to retain 178 trees in the project area, including 13 tuarts aged between 40 and 50 years old.  
• 28 of these trees will be preserved by incorporating a tree-lined median in the design.  
• We are recycling any trees that need to be removed by making them available to the City of Fremantle for use in local parks and reserves, with the remainder going to other local associations.  
• We have developed a Landscape and Urban Design Framework and specified a high standard of urban design for the project, including soft landscaping, involving extensive planting and revegetation with species appropriate to the local area. |
| Ensure the noise walls are sensitive to the character of the area and that local amenity is retained | • We’ve worked closely with residents adjacent to the project area and have incorporated their preferences into the contract.  
• These include a 1.5m acrylic panel at the top of each wall, landscaping and planting at the base of the walls, and ensuring the colour scheme complements the local area. |
| Ensure the project provides safe access to local roads and driveways               | • We will build a new one-way service road between Montreal Street and Chudleigh Street on the northern side of High Street to provide safer access for properties that currently have direct driveway access onto High Street. This, along with the new continuous median on High Street, will prevent potentially dangerous right turn movements into and out of High Street.  
• Remaining turns on to local roads at Montreal Street and Wilkinson Street will include turn lanes.  
• High Street residents will enjoy improved amenity with their houses no longer exposed to trucks directly alongside their properties. |
| Improve connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists                                 | • Following extensive liaison with the City of Fremantle and residents, two new underpasses will be provided at Montreal Street and Forrest Street. They will improve connectivity for pedestrian and cyclists accessing local schools, parks, shopping and recreation facilities.  
• Residents asked us to ensure the underpasses were safe, so we have incorporated sky lights, lighting, CCTV and other features to promote a sense of openness and to improve safety. |
| Minimise impact to road users and residents during construction                   | • High Street will stay open at all times during construction. We will communicate widely to residents and road users about any major works or changes to the local road network.  
• Our contractor must also prepare a detailed Construction Management Plan, including measures to make sure dust, noise and disruption are kept to a minimum. |
| Provide a lasting legacy for the local community                                  | • Improving safety for all road users and improving amenity for residents are key legacies.  
• In addition, this project will also provide new, formalised parking bays at the Fremantle Netball Association and provide improvements to Fremantle Public Golf Course, including a new clubhouse and a co-located community facility as a meeting space for local organisations. |

**Want more Information?**

by emailing [enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au) or phoning 138 138.

You can also register for project updates by heading to our project page and subscribing for email updates.

This document can be provided in alternative formats upon request.