

NorthLink WA Fact Sheet

ACCESS CHANGES TO ABBEY STREET

The upgrade of Tonkin Highway as part of NorthLink WA requires Abbey Street to be made into a cul-de-sac at the intersection with Morley Drive.

Planning since the 1980s indicates that this junction would be closed because of its close proximity to Tonkin Highway.

When NorthLink WA is complete, the Tonkin Highway Interchange at Morley Drive will be a free-flowing roundabout at ground level, with a raised Tonkin Highway passing over the top. The new roundabout will be very close to Abbey Street and will have vehicles travelling at relatively high traffic speeds. If Abbey Street was to stay open, it would result in:

- **fewer gaps for existing traffic** – no traffic lights at the new interchange will mean more continuous traffic flow and leave fewer gaps for drivers to exit from Abbey Street; and
- **an increased risk of vehicle crashes** – as drivers take risks to complete exit movements, or as vehicles turning left into Abbey Street are rear-ended by vehicles coming out of the roundabout.

During 2015/16, consultation with the Hampton Park Primary School community was undertaken to plan safe access to and from school. Parents and carers have been using an interim



parking area on the eastern side of Tonkin Highway within the road reserve to access the school via the pedestrian underpass. This car park will be removed to construct the new highway and interchange with Morley Drive.

In addition to new parking in and around the school grounds, the school community requested that some parking be provided along Abbey Street. This parking can only be provided safely if the Abbey Street intersection with Morley Drive is closed.

Benefits

Many road users are avoiding the currently congested Tonkin Highway by using local roads. Once complete, NorthLink WA will discourage such 'rat running' through local streets by attracting traffic onto a safe and efficient highway that is purpose built to handle high traffic volumes. Without NorthLink WA, local roads would become busier, less safe and more congested.

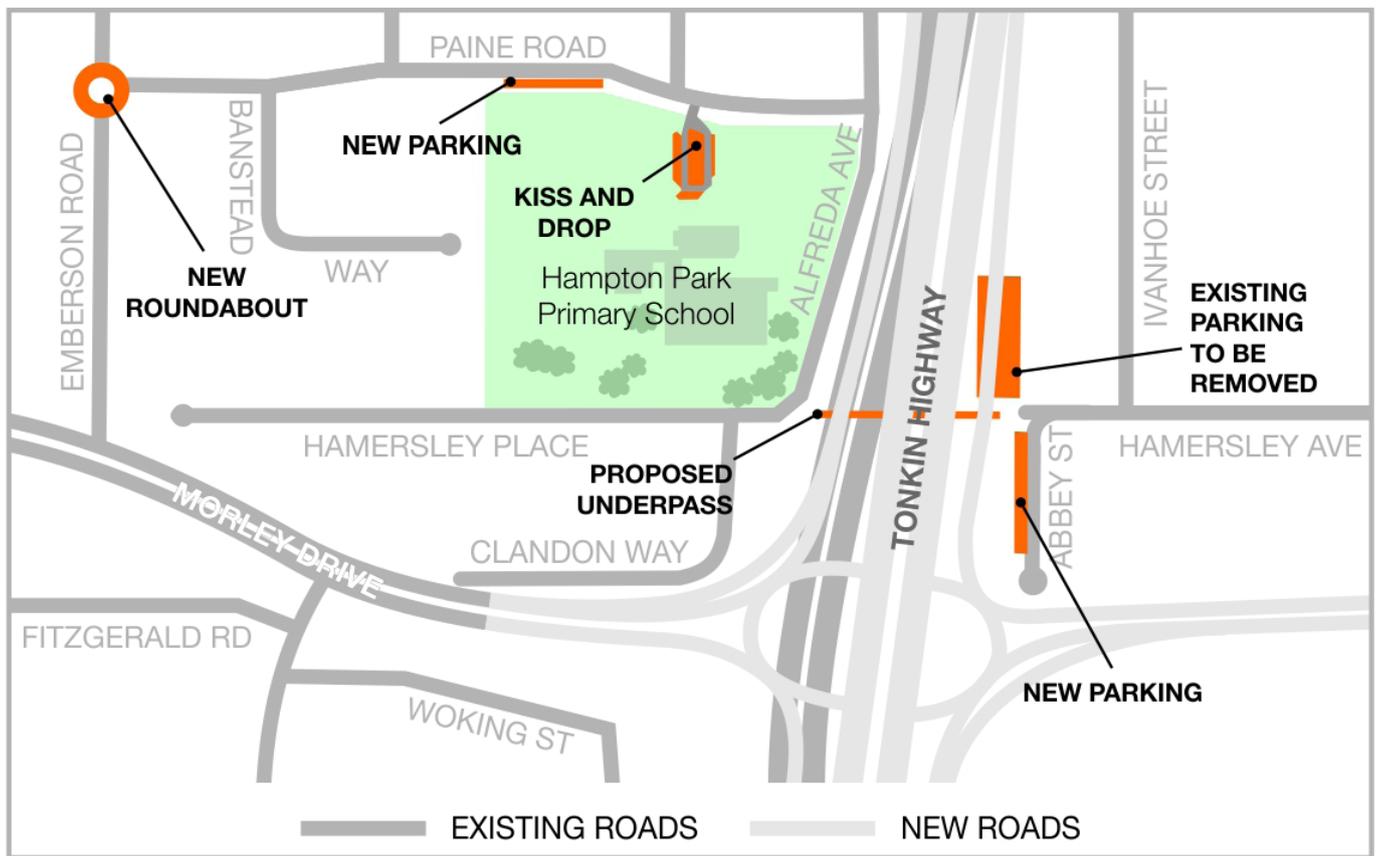
NorthLink WA will provide a vital, **state of the art transport link between Morley and Muchea**. It will reduce travel times and congestion, and provide significant productivity benefits to the economy, industry, motorists and local communities.



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Once NorthLink WA is complete, traffic from areas such as Ellenbrook and Ballajura that currently use Beechboro Road North will use the new highway. Traffic forecasts for Beechboro Road with NorthLink WA are significantly lower than traffic forecasts without NorthLink WA. This reduction in traffic should make it easier for residents to move around the area including Beechboro Road.

NorthLink WA will take regional traffic away from local roads, leaving local roads to do what they do best - provide local access.

Considerations

While closing Abbey Street may cause some inconvenience to locals accessing the area, safety for all road users is Main Roads' paramount consideration. Any potential inconvenience brought about by extra travel distance on local roads is expected to be balanced by time savings provided by free flowing traffic conditions on NorthLink WA.

Traffic monitoring will take place before, during and after construction to record traffic changes and to check that the network is performing satisfactorily.

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

For more information call 138 138 or email info@northlinkwa.com.au

Further information can be found on the project website www.northlinkwa.com.au

Construction of the **NorthLink WA Southern Section** (Guildford Road to Reid Highway) **starts in mid-2016** and will continue through to early 2018. As part of this upgrade, interchanges are proposed at Collier Road and Morley Drive and a flyover is proposed at Benara Road.



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