

Smart Freeway Mitchell Southbound: Hester Avenue to Warwick Road



Update on infrastructure works

Clearing works are progressing between Hepburn Avenue and Warwick Road to construct a new traffic lane adjacent to the freeway verge to facilitate safer merging, a new emergency stopping lane and Smart Freeway modifications to the entry ramps.

Works on the verge will see road users progressively moved to lanes adjacent to the median, with a number of traffic re-alignments to occur in November and December, between Hodges Drive and Reid Highway. This will involve night-time lane closures with some freeway southbound on and off ramp closures with detours.

Works continue on the third lane adjacent to the median between Hodges Drive and Hepburn Avenue, with completion expected in mid-2023.

Noise walls and PSP construction

The project team has been working closely with the City of Joondalup to finalise the Principal Shared Path (PSP) design, with many site walks undertaken to identify options to retain trees and maximise re-vegetation opportunities.

This includes re-configuring the PSP alignment to enable creation of a vegetation strip of up to 3m wide between the road and the path, in areas where this can be accommodated.

An overview of the PSP alignment, with noise wall heights and locations, is overleaf.

Additional maps that show close-up visual concepts at various locations are being prepared and will be shared as soon as possible.

Service re-location works for the installation of fibre optic cabling to accommodate the new PSP alignment, are nearing completion.

Preparation works for the PSP and noise walls have commenced at Camarino Drive in Woodvale, working south towards Twickenham Drive and St Johns Court, in Kingsley.

Initial works include the installation of six-metre-deep noise wall footings. Noise wall posts and panels will be installed following this.

Construction of the noise walls is expected to be completed by mid-2023. The PSP construction will follow the noise walls, with completion anticipated by late 2023. These dates are dependent on weather, materials, and workforce availability.

Revegetation plan

We are finalising a comprehensive revegetation plan and look forward to sharing this very soon. The revegetation plan includes landscaping of various heights, using native species identified in consultation with the City of Joondalup.

Re-use of vegetation

As part of our commitment to maximise sustainability outcomes, we recently donated 30 grass trees to West Greenwood Primary School. We will also provide logs to several local schools for inclusion in their nature playgrounds, and to Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre for bird perches.



Above: Kaarakin Black Cockatoo Conservation Centre received some grass trees which were unable to be replanted due to their condition. Cockatoos love pulling apart grass trees, even dead ones, to seek grubs to eat.



Above: Grass trees being delivered to West Greenwood Primary School

Managing construction impacts

The project has management plans in place for noise, vibration and dust and we will continue to implement the principles and practices contained in these plans.

Low levels of vibration can cause glass and ceramics to vibrate, windows to shake and external screens to rattle.

Although this may be unsettling, the limits set by the Australian Standards are well below those capable of causing structural damage.

Vibration monitors are placed at strategic locations within the road verge. The monitor consists of a black case and round sensor connected with a cable.

The monitor will be secured with a chain to a tree or lamp post and may be left in a location for a number of days. If you see one of these monitors near your property, please do not touch or disturb the equipment.

Upcoming activities will see the temporary closure of several sections of the existing PSP. Detour signage is in place on site, and details are on our webpage.

We apologise to path users, nearby residents and business for any disruption caused during construction and thank you for your ongoing patience and understanding.

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you would like further information, or have any feedback, questions or concerns, please contact:

Phone: 138 138

Email: enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au

You can also subscribe to receive updates directly to your inbox by registering via the project's webpage at mainroads.wa.gov.au/smart-freeways.