



Tonkin Highway Corridor Roe Highway to Kelvin Road

The \$366 million Tonkin Highway Corridor project is jointly funded by the Australian (\$293 million) and State (\$73 million) Governments. It is part of the broader Tonkin Highway transformation strategy which also includes Tonkin Gap and Tonkin Highway Extension.

Planning and development work is underway to improve safety and reduce delays along the heavily congested section of Tonkin Highway from Roe Highway to Kelvin Road.

Background

Tonkin Highway is a major freight route in the Perth metropolitan region and forms part of the planned freeway network (comprising Reid, Tonkin and Roe Highways).

The highway will be upgraded to allow free-flow conditions to continue along Tonkin Highway by creating a roadway that aligns with other completed Tonkin Highway projects including Gateway WA and NorthLink WA projects further to the north.

The section from Roe Highway to Kelvin Road has existing congestion and road safety concerns. Traffic volumes are predicted to increase in the future, impacting road users, freight and heavy vehicle movements.

Project scope

- Widening Tonkin Highway from four to six lanes from south of Roe Highway to Kelvin Road
- Grade separations (Tonkin Highway travelling over intersections at):
 - Tonkin Highway / Welshpool Road – Connections to and from Tonkin Highway north and south
 - Tonkin Highway / Hale Road – Partial connection with north-facing ramps (to and from the airport and Perth)

- Tonkin Highway / Kelvin Road – Connections to and from Tonkin Highway north and south
- Median and verge barriers
- Principal Shared Path connecting to existing paths north on Tonkin Highway, including underpasses at ramps at the new intersections
- Lighting and noise walls
- Local urban design and landscaping opportunities.

View the latest visualisation images below and a video at <https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/tonkin-hwy-corridor>

Current activities

Development work includes:

- design development
- traffic modelling
- environmental assessments and approvals,
- identification of interface and construction risks,
- community and stakeholder engagement
- geotechnical and site investigations by utility service providers
- early design work to prepare for relocation of services
- preparation for releasing a delivery contract to industry.

The project will be delivered under two contracts; the first includes the intersections along Tonkin Highway at Hale Road and Welshpool Road, and the second includes Tonkin Highway and Kelvin Road.



Future Welshpool/Tonkin interchange

Improving road safety

By taking Tonkin Highway over the local roads, the project will improve road safety along both Tonkin Highway and connecting roads by reducing the likelihood and severity of crashes.

- The three existing at-grade intersections along the Tonkin Highway recorded 380 crashes from January 2017 to December 2021.
- 10 crashes at the three intersections resulted in driver hospitalisation, with most crashes resulting in vehicle damage.

The project will also address the Welshpool Road East/Bruce Road/Brook Road blackspot intersection with a further 49 crashes during the same period – of which 67% were high severity right angle crashes resulting in a further three hospitalisations. These upgrades will reduce killed or seriously injured (KSI) crashes by up to 59% at each intersection.

Improving travel times

The project will ease congestion and improve local access and connectivity to and from the highway once delivered.

- Time savings of up to 4 minutes forecast to Tonkin Highway from residential areas.
- Time savings of up to 3 minutes forecast from Tonkin Highway to residential areas.
- Average travel time savings within the surrounding road network range up to 5 minutes.

For most travel journeys and times assessed, reductions were due to Tonkin Highway being raised over the intersections, which reduces intersection delays within the road network.

Hale Road at Tonkin Highway

Detailed investigations have shown:

- There is a significantly lower traffic demand to and from the south. More than 80 per cent of vehicles using Hale Road travel to and from the north on Tonkin Highway.
- Providing access to the south will impact major existing utility services (gas and water) on the eastern side of Tonkin Highway and at the corner of Tonkin Highway/Hale Road. Relocating these means more vegetation clearing into Hartfield Park, longer construction time, and significantly greater cost.

There would also be additional infrastructure required and significant land impacts outside the current road reservation. The project footprint would need to widen to include new collector-distributor roads (roads alongside the highway that allow vehicles to get on and off Tonkin Highway). This would:

- require private land acquisition (homes)
- impact the Veteran Car Club operations (the club has been on the site for 50 years)
- require extensive vegetation clearing within Bush Forever sites and the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage registered Aboriginal place Welshpool Reserve (Maamba Reserve).

Community engagement

Results from the 2021 online community survey are available on the project webpage at <https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/tonkin-hwy-corridor>.

The feedback was invaluable in providing us with further insight into local issues and opportunities and informed the road design process. Thank you to all who participated.

Service relocations will commence in late 2022 in preparation for construction.

The project team has met with many local residents and groups (including environmental) who have provided feedback that is being considered in the design.

We continue to be available to answer any questions you may have, and you can contact us at enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au or on 138 138.



Future Hale/Tonkin interchange