

Bunbury Outer Ring Road Fact Sheet

NORTHERN ALIGNMENT – CORRIDOR SELECTION

Main Roads is planning the long term vision for the Bunbury Outer Ring Road (BORR), a section of highway that will connect Forrest Highway directly to Bussell Highway. It will form an integral part of a future South West freeway network and create opportunities to provide social and economic benefits for Greater Bunbury and the South West Region.

Planning History

Main Roads initially developed the BORR concept in the early 1970s in consultation with state government departments and local authorities. The original concept linked the Australind Bypass (now known as Forrest Highway) to the north of Bunbury with Bussell Highway to the south of Bunbury. It was planned as a high standard four-lane divided rural highway. This work formed part of the Bunbury Region Plan (State Planning Commission 1987). The northern section of the BORR alignment

was located west of the existing Hynes Road and has largely informed the corridor included in the Greater Bunbury Region Scheme (GBRS).

In 2012, following consultation with the Department of Planning Lands and Heritage, Main Roads reviewed the road corridor for BORR to allow for the expansion of the Greater Bunbury urban and industrial footprint including the proposed Wanju urban and Waterloo industrial developments. This resulted

in a corridor located slightly east of that shown in the GBRS.

A review of the BORR planning objectives followed in 2016-18 due to:

- updated population predictions
- changes resulting in amendments to land use within the Greater Bunbury area and
- increasing pressure on parts of the existing network.



The northern section of BORR is between Forrest Highway and Boyanup Picton Road. A new corridor for this section was selected in April 2019.



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The Alignment Selection Planning Study included traffic modelling to test the performance of two corridors for future land use scenarios and a future Greater Bunbury population of up to 200,000 people.

In 2017/2018 Main Roads undertook an Alignment Selection Planning Study to identify an integrated planning solution for the northern section of BORR that aligned with the future development of Greater Bunbury.

The study identified an alternative "Outer Ring Road" corridor east of the proposed Greater Bunbury urban footprint which provides a number of network, safety and efficiency benefits in comparison to corridors that bisect the community. More specifically, the eastern BORR north corridor:

- provides an integrated planning solution and defines an outer perimeter for development

- provides improved high speed freight access to the Port (largely separating port bound vehicles from local traffic movements)
- caters for population growth for Greater Bunbury from 80,000 to more than 200,000
- separates the majority of high speed regional and freight traffic from local movements, resulting in improved road safety and efficiency benefits
- provides future residential communities within Greater Bunbury improved access to existing services and built up areas by removing the majority of regional

movements within Greater Bunbury and allowing better access to and across the Forrest Highway

- ties in further north of the previous alternatives on Forrest Highway, which improves safety at a number of intersections and improves overall efficiency
- does not preclude future rail options in and around Greater Bunbury, including future fast passenger rail

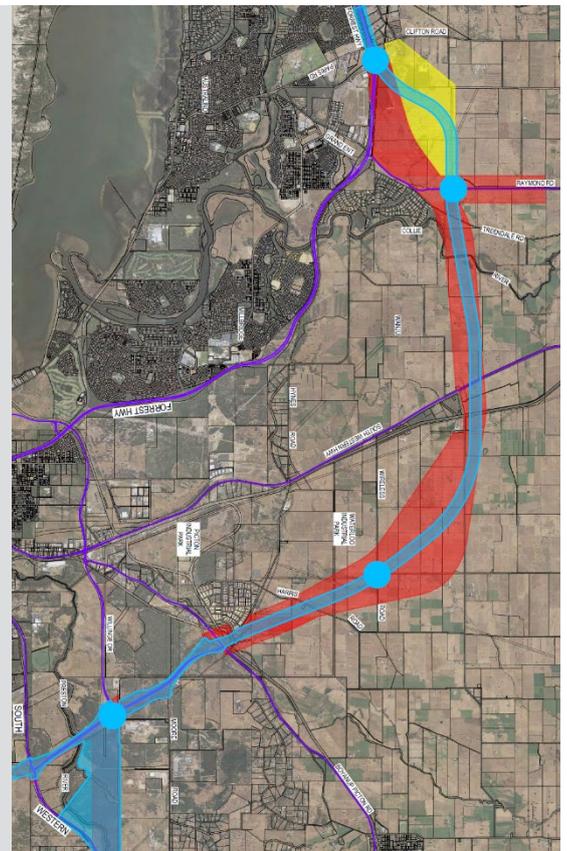
In May 2018 Main Roads presented these findings to the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) and sought support for the preferred "eastern" corridor. After careful consideration, the WAPC resolved to support selection of the eastern alignment as the preferred route in order to undertake further detailed planning activities based on this corridor.

Current Alignment

Main Roads established the BORR Team in April 2018 to undertake detailed planning and project development activities for the entire BORR, including this more easterly corridor for the northern section of BORR.

The BORR Team has since been undertaking field investigations and other design work to identify alignment options within the preferred corridor.

In October 2018, the BORR Team produced an Ultimate Planning Concept Design that reduced the investigation area to a nominal width of 200 metres and identified the location and configuration of major interchanges / connections to the existing road network. This Ultimate Planning Concept Design is expected to be referred to the State and Commonwealth for environmental assessment in April 2019.



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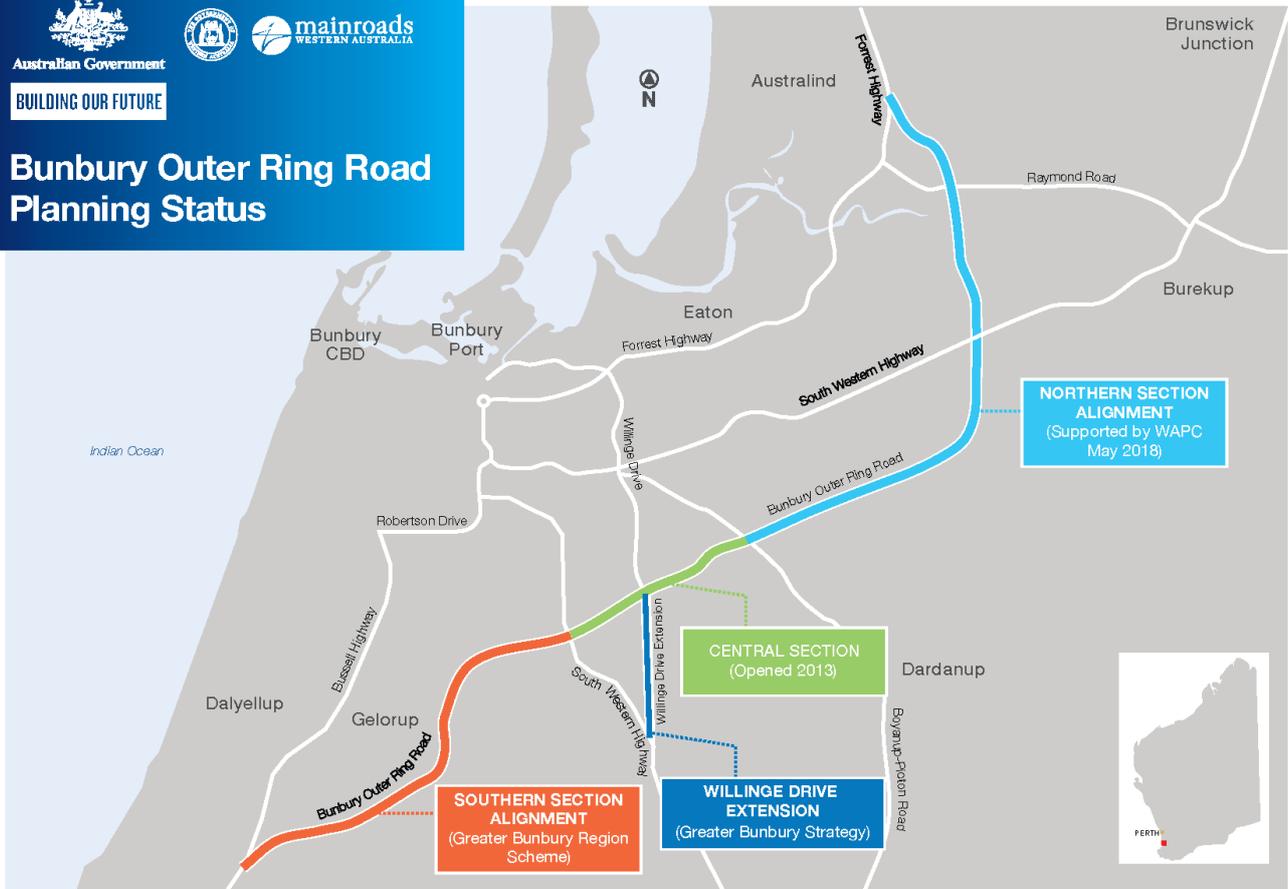
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Bunbury Outer Ring Road Planning Status



WANT MORE INFORMATION?

For information on the Bunbury Outer Ring Road Project please visit the projects page on the Main Roads website at www.mainroads.wa.gov.au

Contact Main Roads' Customer Information Centre 138 138

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