**PROJECT UPDATE** 

February 2021





### **Bunbury Outer Ring Road**



The Bunbury Outer Ring Road (BORR) will reduce local congestion and increase efficiency for freight vehicles and regional traffic, while improving long-term access to the Bunbury Port. The project will support social and economic growth and development, enhance amenity on local roads by reducing freight and regional traffic, and create a safer road system for our community in Greater Bunbury and the South West region.

The South West Gateway Alliance and Main Roads are adhering to all Government restrictions put in place on 31 January 2021. In line with Government advice, we will continue construction this week. The health and safety of our people and the community remains our number one priority and we will follow restrictions and safety precautions including wearing mandatory masks, maintaining social distancing, temperature testing, limiting staff movements between regions, and increased site cleaning. For the latest information and advice please visit <u>https://www.wa.gov.au/government/covid-19-coronavirus</u>.

## Ground breaking event marks start of construction for BORR

Construction of the 27-kilometre four-lane, highstandard road from Forrest Highway near Australind to Bussell Highway, south of Bunbury, is now underway.

WA Transport Minister Rita Saffioti took part in a ground breaking ceremony for the project along with Nola Marino, Assistant Minister for Regional Development and Territories and local Member for Forrest; local Members Mick Murray and Don Punch; and Wardandi -Wilman Elders Yvonne Garlett and Peter Michael. Work on the South West's biggest road infrastructure project will unlock thousands of local jobs and economic benefits for the Greater Bunbury region.

First will be access roads and lay down yards for the construction of the interchange at Willinge Drive. This junction with BORR will provide improved freight access to Bunbury Port.

For more information, visit the project page on the Main Roads website at <u>www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/BORR</u> or come and see us at our new Community Hub from 15

www.mainroads.wa.gov.au



We're working for Western Australia. February 2021 (see article on final page of this project update).

You can also subscribe for project updates on the website to stay informed on the project and receive the latest announcements direct to your inbox.

## Cultural ceremony a profound experience for the BORR Alliance team

The South West Gateway Alliance (SWGA) team had the pleasure of joining the project's Aboriginal Heritage Advisory Group (AHAG) on the BORR alignment for a profound cultural ceremony.

This was an opportunity for local Elders to be on land and to undertake a significant cultural activity prior to the start of work. The group gathered in a yarning circle under the shade of the peppermint tree to listen to the stories and experiences along the journey of BORR, and how this has impacted on the local Noongar people.

The preservation of heritage and culture, including song lines and stories is important and there was wide recognition and acknowledgement for all the Elders who have been on this 25-year journey and who are no longer with us.

Elder Joseph (Joe) Northover shared stories about the local Noongar people and their connection to the land, the waterways and the spirits of the Noongar Ancestors.

Those present experienced a powerful and moving 'waking of the spirits' ceremony and will now have the opportunity to build a greater understanding of Noongar people and culture.

Other AHAG members joined Joe in talking about where they lived and grew up along the BORR alignment.

Shortly afterwards, the AHAG met with the SWGA to review the Aboriginal Heritage Management Plan.



Aboriginal Heritage Advisory Group meeting with SWGA

## SWGA kicks off engagement with directly affected residents

Thanks to everyone who attended the first SWGA community engagement session at Maker + Co with directly affected landowners from the central and southern sections. The meeting was an opportunity for the SWGA team to share information about the design and construction process.

In the coming months more community information sessions will be held with residents as the project progresses.

If you would like to contact the project team, call us on **138 138** or email **<u>enguiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au</u>**.



Central and South community meeting at Maker + Co.

#### **Businesses keeping busy on BORR**

As investigation and preparatory works continue in the northern and central sections, we have seen an array of local businesses engaged on the project.

The SWGA is delighted to be working with local businesses and is committed to achieving more than \$300 million in local spend across the project.

Register your business now by clicking <u>here</u> or go to the project website homepage at: <u>www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/BORR</u>.

vww.mainroads.wa.gov.au



**L** 138 138

- enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au
- www.mainroads.wa.gov.au

#### Local Community Hub opening soon

The SWGA team is currently preparing to welcome you to the new community hub at Maker + Co. from Monday 15 February 2021, you will be able to see the team at 75 Victoria Street, Bunbury. The hub will be open Monday to Friday 9am-5pm, and Saturdays 10am-1pm.

If you have a question about the project, the road design, would like to explore job opportunities, or want to know more about how your business might be able to work with the Alliance, come and speak to our team.

The team will also host community and advisory group meetings, distribute project updates and information, display road maps and discuss upcoming works at the Hub. We look forward to meeting you soon.

# MAKER+CO

#### We are now on Facebook

If you've got something to say, or you just want to keep up with the news of the BORR project, join our community Facebook group.

Search Bunbury Outer Ring Road Project Community Group on Facebook or visit

<u>www.facebook.com/groups/borrproject</u> and register as a member.



#### What's happening next?

The timeline below shows what we have planned for the coming months.

To keep the community informed, we'll update this timeline in each issue of the project update.



\*Timeline is subject to environmental and other statutory approvals

Further information Website: www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/BORR Phone: 138 138 Email: enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au Join our Facebook Group

www.mainroads.wa.gov.au



**L** 138 138

- enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au
- www.mainroads.wa.gov.au