

Bussell Highway Duplication



Funded by Australian (\$68 million) and State Governments (\$17 million) works on Bussell Highway will **increase capacity, reduce congestion** and **improve road safety**.

Overview

We're duplicating a 17 kilometre section of the Bussell Highway, between Capel and Busselton, to increase capacity and safety on the Highway.

In June 2020, the Federal and State Government's committed \$85 million for construction of both Stage One and Stage Two of the project.

A contract to construct Stage One was awarded to Raubex Construction Pty Ltd, with work commencing in October 2020, and completion expected in June 2021. Stage One is expected to support up to 570 direct and indirect jobs during construction.

Background

The 46 kilometre section of Bussell Highway between Bunbury and Busselton is a divided, four-lane dual carriageway, aside from a 17 kilometre section between Capel, and east of Busselton. This section is a two lane, single carriageway with passing lanes at approximately five kilometre intervals in each direction.

During peak periods, such as school holidays and long weekends, traffic congestion can often extend through intersections that provide access into the Capel townsite, causing inconvenience and safety concerns for road users.

Similarly, traffic is often bumper to bumper heading north towards Perth after holidays and long weekends.

The project will address the following problems:

- excessive traffic congestion and delay during public holiday weekends
- longer and more frequent periods of congestion as traffic increases over time
- unacceptable network resilience
- poor safety record of Bussell Highway in the project area.



Project Scope

The duplication of Bussell Highway will be completed in two stages:

Stage One – construction of a five-kilometre section of new carriageway between Capel Bypass and Hutton Road, along with upgrade works on an existing section of carriageway.

Stage Two – construction of the remaining 12 kilometre section of new carriageway between Hutton Road and Busselton, along with the duplication of three bridges over the Abba, Sabina and Ludlow Rivers.

On completion of Stage One, the pinch points around the Capel townsite and Tuart Drive will be removed. Congestion is expected to reduce on this section, with the extra lane providing an opportunity to overtake slower moving vehicles.

Other expected benefits include:

- improved safety for road users
- improved access into Capel townsite
- improved travel times in peak periods, including holidays and weekends
- improved emergency response access
- improved ability to carry out maintenance works.

Construction

To minimise impacts to road users, most construction will occur in the road reserve alongside the existing carriageway.

Additionally, during construction:

- Speed reductions will be in place for the duration of the project to ensure the safety of road users and road workers.
- Please plan ahead and allow extra time for your journey, and obey all traffic signs and traffic controllers to ensure traffic keeps flowing.

Environment

Stage One is progressing as all State and Federal Environmental and Heritage approvals have been finalised.

An Environmental Impact Assessment is currently being prepared to progress environmental approvals for Stage Two.

Want more Information?

Project information is available at www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/projects, by emailing enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au or phoning 138 138.

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