

Dongara-Geraldton-Northampton Route: Alignment Selection Study

Consultation is well underway on the corridor for a future Dongara-Geraldton-Northampton route. Individual meetings have already been held with many landowners intersected by or adjacent to the identified corridor, and others are being scheduled at regular intervals. This one-on-one consultation will continue well into 2021 to ensure all landowners intersected by the corridor have time to discuss their individual concerns and queries.

Consultation period extended

As meetings with landowners are expected to continue well into next year, and in recognition of community concerns that not everyone will get to provide comment, the consultation period has formally been extended until at least the end of March 2021.

It is important to note that no decisions have been made regarding a final corridor. Main Roads will continue to listen to the concerns of the community and review options as appropriate. We will provide study updates to the community at regular intervals.

How to have your say

As a reminder, you can provide your responses to the consultation by:

Visiting <https://www.mysaytransport.wa.gov.au/dongara-geraldton-northampton> to view our interactive map and complete the online survey.

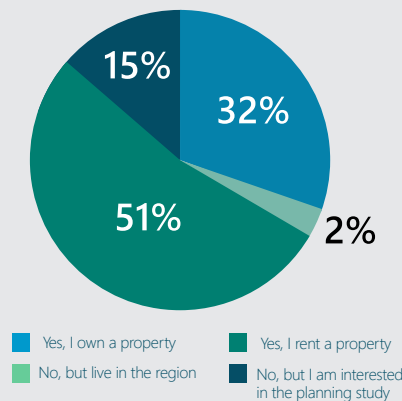
Sending us an **email** at: enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au

Writing to us at:
DGN Alignment Selection Study
Main Roads
PO Box 6202
East Perth WA 6892

What you have told us so far (as of 27 November 2020)

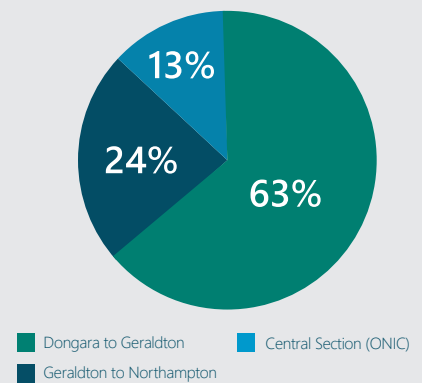
We have received 133 online survey responses to date.

Do you own or rent a property within the proposed road corridor?



Most survey respondents indicated they live in the region, with strong representation from those living within the proposed investigation corridor.

Which section of the proposed route are you primarily interested in?

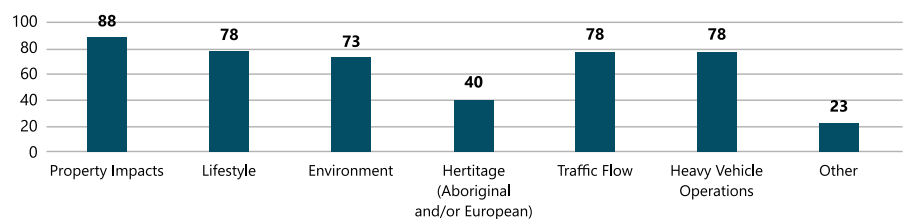


Most of you are interested in the southern section of the route.

Many of you indicated that property impacts were important to you, followed by lifestyle, traffic flow and heavy vehicle operations as joint-second. Heritage was also identified as important to many respondents.

Please note that survey participants could select multiple options.

What aspects of the Planning Study are important to you?



Some of you have asked, "Why do we need to build this road?" The new road will:

- Enhance road safety by reducing the number of large trucks on busy city streets and school zones in Geraldton;
- Improve freight efficiency and cost. The cost of freight reduces when you use bigger trucks and on higher standard roads, benefiting everyone;
- Improve amenity. As Geraldton has grown, it's no longer acceptable for large freight trucks to drive through suburbia;
- Provide other economic and social benefits in the longer term for Geraldton and the Mid West, including potential investment and development of transport hubs and new industry.



How we are considering your feedback

We are already investigating possible amendments to the corridor between Dongara and Geraldton, due to concerns raised by property owners and the broader community.

We are also considering how to protect local connectivity, potentially including connections that cater for the east-west movement of local traffic, as well as cyclists, pedestrians, horses and farm machinery.

It is important to note that the proposed new road would be a single carriageway with overtaking opportunities and safe connections to townsites and major local roads, similar to the existing Brand Highway.

Through Walkaway, Arthur Road would (in some locations) be retained as a local service road, providing access and connectivity to adjacent properties and safe connections to and across the new road. We understand that access for the Arthur Road community to the Walkaway townsite and sporting facilities is very important. We will continue working with stakeholders to understand outcomes for school bus operations.

Latest data suggests that the preferred corridor does not majorly intersect with

water sources; however, we are continuing to liaise with the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation to ensure that any future road will not detrimentally impact any Public Drinking Water Sources Areas.

Compensation process

Understandably, most landowners affected by planned transport infrastructure want to know how they will be compensated when a new road is eventually built.

While this study is only a planning study and any construction is a number of years away, Main Roads generally acquires land when a project is funded for construction (usually about two years prior to work starting). In some cases, this may happen earlier by negotiation.

Most importantly, compensation is assessed on the market value of the property as at the date of "Taking", in accordance with the Land Administration Act. A 10% allowance for solatium (recompense) is also payable due to the compulsory nature of the acquisition.

Compensation is assessed by independent licensed valuers. More information about the land acquisition process can be found here: <https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/globalassets/contact/land-acquisition-fact-sheet.pdf>

Further information

To find out more about the planning study, please visit: <https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/projects-initiatives/projects/regional/dongara/>

You can also contact us on 138 138 or via enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au

This document can be provided in alternative formats upon request

