

Pinjarra Heavy Haulage Deviation



Current status

Main Roads is continuing to develop a project for the future Pinjarra Heavy Haulage Deviation, in conjunction with the Shire of Murray and the wider community.

In November 2023, the Federal contribution to the project was lost following the review of the Federal Government's Infrastructure Investment Program. Subsequently, the State Government confirmed it will proceed with delivery of the Pinjarra Heavy Haulage Deviation, stating it is a very important project both for the efficiency of the State's supply chains and for the safety of people living in Pinjarra.

You can read the statement [here](#).

Project benefits

The project aims to provide an alternative route for regional heavy vehicle traffic around the town that will:

- improve safety for all road users on central town streets and heavy vehicle routes
- enhance amenity through the town for locals and visitors
- address traffic congestion on the town road network
- support socio-economic growth and facilitate integrated development in Greater Pinjarra and the South West region

Importantly, we understand and respect areas associated with the Pinjarra Massacre. We recognise these are both culturally sensitive to the Aboriginal community and highly significant in terms of national heritage.

In March 2021, Traditional Owner engagement identified concerns about potential project impacts in the vicinity of important heritage sites and cultural heritage values associated with the Pinjarra Massacre. There are three registered heritage sites within the project area.

Nyungar Community Engagement Update

To progress discussions with Traditional Owners, we engaged Aboriginal Land Services (ALS). ALS is a majority Aboriginal-owned and led consultancy that specialises in environmental management, Aboriginal Cultural Heritage protection and management, community engagement and capacity-building services.

In April 2023, ALS facilitated a Nyungar Community Meeting with over 40 people attending. The meeting confirmed that more engagement with Main Roads was needed, particularly regarding areas of significance. Discussions included:

- The Murray River holds significance for the Nyungar Community of Pinjarra and wider community members.
- Consultations between Main Roads and Traditional Owners in 2008, 2010 and 2021 have not resolved Nyungar community concerns.
- The current alignment needs to be moved further away from the Massacre site and further investigation of the Murray River is needed.
- Main Roads to respond to six recommendations from the meeting to set the basis for a second meeting.

In September 2023, Main Roads met with more than 50 Nyungar community members to further understand the concerns and opportunities raised in April. The community members were able to ask questions of the Main Roads representatives.

The outcomes of this meeting included asking the Nyungar community to nominate representatives to establish a Nyungar

alignment selection working group. Terms of Reference will be established at the first meeting, and the group will work together with Main Roads to understand the constraints and work towards determining a preferred alignment. Concurrently, wider community and stakeholder engagement will also be undertaken to inform the alignment selection process, before presenting the alignment to the Project Steering Committee for endorsement.

Main Roads looks forward to progressing discussions about the project in a culturally appropriate and sensitive way that pays respect to the local community's views and concerns.

What's next?

We are continuing to update the Shire of Murray as we progress. We will also update the community with information about the alignment selection process as we progress this with the Nyungar community.

Wider engagement will be undertaken in the future, and will include project updates, briefings, drop-in sessions and other activities. Visit our web page at <https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/projects-initiatives/all-projects/regional/pinjarra-heavy-haulage/> to learn more about the project.

We continue to welcome queries from the community and encourage residents, businesses and community groups to subscribe to project email updates by visiting www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/projects.