## Tooday Road improvements Shire of Toodyay

Pre-construction works begin in preparation for the Toodyay Road upgrades in the Shire of Toodyay. Preconstruction works will commence shortly for the safety improvements on Toodyay Road between Dryandra Road and Racecourse Road.



Works include, overtaking lanes and realignment, in addition 27 kilometres of road will be widened. To accommodate this widening, up to 54.87 hectares of native vegetation has to be removed from the road side.

To "offset" the removal of vegetation, Clackline Nature Reserve will be expanded by around four times the amount of vegetation that will be removed from the road reserve.

Robert Huston from the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions said, "By purchasing this property the State is ensuring that 196 hectares of prime Wandoo woodland will receive greater protection by incorporating it into Clackline Nature Reserve to be managed for its important conservation values from now and into the future."

"The current reserve is approximately 700 hectares, so the property provides vegetation that represents almost an extra one-third in size of the current reserve."

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In addition, approximately 180 artificial black cockatoo nesting hollows will be installed in the reserve or in other nearby nature reserves managed by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

Tony Kirkby, cockatoo expert for Main Roads advised,

"Vegetation in the reserve contains significant areas of mature Eucalypt trees that provides foraging habitat for Baudin's, Carnaby's and Forest Red-tailed Black Cockatoo. Both Carnaby's and Forest Red-tailed Cockatoos breed in the area".



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A revegetation plan has been developed to contribute to the ecological connectivity and to preserve the look and feel of the roadside along Toodyay Road.

Approvals from both the Australian and State Governments have been received for clearing permits without any objections from the public.

The State Government places great value on the environment and heritage considerations and aims to balance this with the need to ensure the safety of all road users.

A Community Reference Group has been working with us since 2017 to seek input to the project from the community. The group includes representatives from the Shire of Toodyay, road users, landowners and community groups (resident associations and environmental groups) and emergency services.

We have been collecting seeds to ensure the species currently on the roadside are available for revegetation.



Tony Kirkby Cockatoo Expert, Colleen Fulford Roadside Officer Main Roads and Bob Huston Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions

Greg Warburton - Reserve Management Officer (Shire of Toodyay) said,

"The Toodyay Naturalists' Club Inc. were delighted to learn the news that the offset significantly expands an existing Nature Reserve.

Especially knowing that this has been achieved prior to the road upgrade work commencing

The Main Roads team are to be congratulated for obtaining this outstanding result which has added valuable habitat to our precious conservation estate.

Want more information?

The Club, which celebrates its Golden Anniversary this year look forward to continued engagement with Main Roads via the Reference Group.

We will seek to minimize environmental impacts of the Toodyay Road upgrade and support opportunities such as the Clackline Reserve offset".

Main Roads will shortly start utility relocations, fencing and vegetation clearing in the road reserve.

Please contact Main Roads on 138 138 or email enquiries@mainroads.wa.gov.au

More information is also available at www.mainroads.wa.gov.au



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