



Ministerial Media Statements

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Hon Colin Barnett MEC MLA



Hon Troy Buswell BEC MLA

State Govt's \$500m northern suburbs roads package

Sunday, 2 December 2012

- **\$315m extension of Mitchell Freeway to Hester Ave, Clarkson**
- **\$75m to build bridge for Malaga Dve over Reid Hwy, Malaga**
- **\$48m to turn Reid Hwy into dual carriageways from Duffy Rd to Erindale Rd, Carine**
- **\$31.1m to widen Mitchell Freeway northbound by one lane, city to Hutton St**
- **\$30m to widen Mitchell Freeway northbound by one lane, Hepburn Ave to Hodges Dve**

Premier Colin Barnett and Transport Minister Troy Buswell today announced a \$499.1million State Government upgrade of critical road transport infrastructure in Perth's northern suburbs.

"The funding targets five key projects to improve road safety and reduce traffic congestion in one of Perth's key growth areas," Mr Barnett said.

"A six kilometre extension of the Mitchell Freeway from Burns Beach Road to Hester Avenue will be built from 2014-15 to 2016-17. This will help to relieve pressure on local roads in the growth suburbs of Clarkson, Butler and Jindalee.

"This pressure will only increase with the future residential developments further north at Alkimos, Eglinton, Yanchep and Two Rocks."

Mr Buswell said the extension project also provided for the upgrade of key local roads feeding into the freeway system.

"Without this extension, traffic volumes on Perth's two major north-south arterial routes - Marmion Avenue north of Burns Beach Road and Wanneroo Road - would soon rise to dangerous and unmanageable levels," Mr Buswell said.

The Premier said all five projects would contribute to improved travel times for motorists and result in savings for business through improved transport certainty.

The Government would also undertake a long-overdue widening to accommodate dual lanes on a 2.2km stretch of Reid Highway between Duffy and Erindale roads in Carine.

The project includes building a second bridge over the Mitchell Freeway to alleviate the major congestion that occurs at this location at both peak traffic periods. Design work will begin immediately with construction set for 2014-15.

Mr Buswell said the bridging of the congested Malaga Drive on Reid Highway would see the completion of the 'big three' projects needed to improve safety and efficiency on Reid Highway.

"This Government has delivered on much-needed improvements to Reid Highway where it intersects at Alexander Drive and Mirrabooka Avenue, and this replica project at Malaga Drive will complete the suite," he said.

"Work will start in 2013-14 to build two bridges to carry Reid Highway traffic over Malaga Drive. The project will be completed in 2014-15.

"It will provide a major safety enhancement at this intersection, which recorded nearly 400 crashes in 10 years to the end of 2010, in which 16 people were seriously injured."

Fact File

- **Road upgrades complement State Govt's light rail project; construction due 2016**
- **More info about light rail project at: <http://www.getthebiggerpicture.wa.gov.au/light-rail/>**
- **\$240m Butler rail project, which is extending Perth's urban railway network north to Butler, is under way**
 - This will extend Joondalup Line 7.5km north, to new Butler Station

Transport Minister's office - 6552 6400

Project Details:

Mitchell Freeway Extension Project (\$315million)

- Will see dual carriageway (with provision for three lanes in the future) built from Burns Beach Road to Hester Avenue, a distance of six kilometres
- The project will also provide a major traffic interchange to be built at Burns Beach Road and Neerabup Road; the dualing of Hester Avenue to Wanneroo Road; and construction of Neerabup Road west of the freeway to a dual carriageway and as a single carriageway to Wanneroo Road.

Reid Highway/Malaga Drive Upgrade (\$75million)

- Will provide two traffic bridges to carry Reid Highway traffic over Malaga Drive
- The intersection, which is currently signalised, carries more than 70,000 vehicles each day
- In crash terms it is ranked second worst in the City of Swan and 13th overall in the Perth metropolitan area
- In the 10 years to the end of 2010, there were 362 crashes. Although there were no fatalities, 16 people were hospitalised with serious injuries.

Previously, the Government has delivered:

- Reid Highway/Alexander Drive Upgrade (\$40million - Federal/State funds - opened in April 2011)
- Reid Highway/Mirrabooka Drive Upgrade (\$30million opened November 2011).

Reid Highway Dualing Project (Duffy to Erindale roads - \$48million)

- Project will see the duplication of 2.2km of single carriageway between Erindale and Duffy roads, including a new bridge over the Mitchell Freeway
- There will be associated intersection upgrades at Duffy Road and at the Mitchell Freeway on and off ramps
- About 30,000 vehicles per day travel this section of Reid Highway - more than twice the recommended level for a two-lane road - which has led to significant congestion, particularly during peak periods
- In the six years to the end of 2011, there were 35 crashes between Duffy and Erindale roads - one serious (71% were rear-end crashes).

Mitchell Freeway Widening Project

- City to Hutton Street (\$31.1million). The additional lane will increase capacity from the Graham Farmer Freeway on-ramp northbound on the railway side of the freeway without impacting on Lake Monger.
- The additional lane will be constructed north of Vincent Street on the median side of the northbound carriageway, adjacent to the Public Transport Authority's rail reserve, and built on the left side of the northbound carriageway south of Vincent Street
- The Mitchell Freeway works will be delivered in two stages to minimise disruption to northbound freeway traffic. Also due for completion in May 2013, Stage 1 will provide an additional lane northbound from the tunnel to Vincent Street. Stage 2 includes an additional lane from Vincent to Hutton streets and the widening of the traffic bridges over Powis and Vincent streets and Scarborough Beach Road. Stage 2 is expected to be finished by December 2013
- Hepburn Avenue to Hodges Drive (\$30million). This widening of the northbound lanes from two to three lanes for 7.2km will increase capacity, reduce congestion and improve road safety. Construction to take place in 2013.

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