

Hon Stephen Mullighan MP Minister for Transport and Infrastructure

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Australian-first for Darlington Upgrade Project as local business benefits

Two new bridges for the Darlington Upgrade Project will be constructed 'off-site' and moved into position, in an Australian-first for a civil construction project of this scale.

Project consortium Gateway South has begun constructing the first of two 3000-tonne bridges which are part of the \$620 million North-South Corridor project.

The 180m-long bridges are being built on land between the Southern Expressway and Main South Road, near Marion Road, over the next few months.

Once complete they will be transported using 'self-propelled modular transporters' and manoeuvred into place.

Construction of the bridge segments is providing work for local South Australian business Bowhill Engineering, which is fabricating 10 bridge segments at its River Murray workshop.

The first of the bridge segments will be delivered to the project site today, while the largest segment weighs 90 tonnes and measures approximately 40 metres long.

The innovative construction method will substantially reduce traffic impacts for the project.

Building these bridges off-site and moving them into position, will remove the need for multiple closures of parts of the Southern Expressway and Main South Road.

Background

Once completed the new Main South Road bridges will carry northbound traffic over the Southern Expressway.

One bridge will link to the 3.3 kilometre non-stop motorway while the other will deliver traffic to the local surface roads.

To safely install the bridges, two weekend road closures will be required - one in October and one in November.

In total eight bridges will be built for the Darlington Upgrade Project, including:

- Ayliffes Road
- Tonsley Boulevard
- Over the Sturt River
- Flinders Drive
- Sturt Road
- Mimosa Terrace and Sutton Road

Piling works for four of the eight new bridges is already complete and major traffic changes will occur later this year. This will enable the construction of the remaining bridges and excavation for the lowered motorway to commence.

Five sets of traffic lights will be bypassed through the Darlington Upgrade Project, which is supporting approximately 370 jobs a year during construction.

The Darlington Upgrade is being funded on an 80:20 basis with the Federal Government.

For more information visit the [Darlington Upgrade](#) page.

Quotes attributable to Transport and Infrastructure Minister Stephen Mullighan

This project will make the journey quicker and safer for almost 100,000 vehicles using the Main South Road and Sturt Road intersection every day, including the 73,000 vehicles using this part of Main South Road.

Building the bridges in this way means keeping disruptions to a minimum during construction for the many tens of thousands of vehicles which travel through this part of Main South Road every day.

While this type of bridge installation is common in Europe and America, this method has never been used on this scale before in Australia.

These new bridges will improve traffic flow at some of Adelaide's top ten busiest intersections and will reduce travel times for drivers travelling both north-south and east-west.

It's great to see the State Government's policies paying off for maximising local workers and local businesses, like Bowhill Engineering in public infrastructure projects.

Winning this work is a major coup for Bowhill Engineering. It's the biggest contract the River Murray-based business has undertaken to date and is helping to grow its regional workforce.