



River Road Junction Improvements

Project Update

We are improving safety and access at junctions along River Road

We are upgrading the junctions of River Road with Mount Barker Road and Strathalbyn Road to improve safety and access for all users. Minor improvements are also being made at the junctions of River Road with Kangaroo Reef, Sawmill Gully and Fairview roads.

In October 2024, we invited the community to provide feedback on the River Road Junction Improvements concept designs.

This project update provides an overview of what we heard from the community in October 2024 about the junction upgrades. It also outlines next steps for these works. Please visit our project website for answers to other frequently asked questions: www.dit.sa.gov.au/RRFAQ



Improved safety for all road users



Improved access



Improved connectivity for the local community



Australian Government

BUILDING AUSTRALIA



Government of South Australia
Department for Infrastructure and Transport



Overview of feedback received on the designs

River Road and Mount Barker Road Junction

- The key concern raised was about trucks currently encroaching on the opposing lane when turning left onto Mount Barker Road. We will be widening the junction to improve safety and allow trucks to turn left onto Mount Barker Road and right onto River Road without encroaching on the opposing lanes.
- Suggestions were made for a roundabout at the junction and a dedicated left turn lane onto River Road from Mount Barker Road. The roundabout option was considered during the design phase but not progressed due to considerable land acquisition requirements and impacts on vegetation. The upgraded junction will improve safety and access.
- There was support for the relocation of Bus Stop 51 (north and south side) east of the junction on Mount Barker Road.
- Other suggestions were made to further improve pedestrian safety near the junction. Suggestions included creating a pedestrian refuge on River Road, relocating the proposed pram ramps on River Road further from the junction and installing a signalised pedestrian crossing on Mount Barker Road.

These suggestions were considered but will not be implemented because they would require additional property acquisition or create other safety concerns. For example, moving pram ramps further from the junction would affect sight distances for pedestrians, likely meaning people would avoid using the ramps and take the shortest route to cross River Road.

Installation of a signalised pedestrian crossing on Mount Barker Road is outside the current project scope. However, we will construct a new pedestrian refuge on Mount Barker Road, east of the River Road junction.

River Road and Strathalbyn Road Junction

- The key concern raised was pedestrian safety and access from River Road to Goyder Reserve and Mylor.
 - Suggestions included further upgrading pedestrian access and installing a pedestrian refuge on the northern side of the junction.
- To improve safety for all road users, we have recently reduced the speed limit on River Road. The existing walking path on the northern side of River Road will remain accessible, allowing the public to continue using it to access Mylor. We will also be making some pedestrian access improvements to the Heysen Trail near the junction.
- A suggestion was made to install signage prohibiting truck drivers from using air brakes. This was investigated, however, River Road does not meet the criteria for this signage.

River Road and Fairview Road Junction

- Concern was raised about the proposed permanent closure of the existing northern access to Fairview Road from River Road. There was a preference for the northern access to remain open. There was also a suggestion to make it one-way only.
- The option to keep this junction open was further considered, however, for safety reasons, including insufficient sight distances, it could not be accommodated.
- In response to community feedback and following further technical analysis, we have refined the design to accommodate a one-way arrangement for the northern access. This will allow southbound traffic heading towards Fairview Road to enter from the northern access. Please refer to the updated concept design on page 4 for more details.
- A suggestion was also made to construct a roundabout at this junction. However, a roundabout wasn't considered viable due to insufficient space at this location.

- Other concerns raised included the unevenness of the road surface at the junction and insufficient widening of the junction to allow safe vehicle movements.

The road surface will be improved as part of the junction upgrade. Additionally, as part of the main junction realignment, we will widen the entry and exit points to ensure all vehicles can turn safely.

River Road and Sawmill Gully Road Junction

- The key concern raised was about safe access for various road users. The design ensures that there is sufficient space for vehicles to safely wait at Sawmill Gully Road before making a turn onto River Road. The existing pedestrian and cyclist access at this location will also not be impacted by this project.

River Road and Kangaroo Reef Road Junction

- Key concerns raised included pedestrian and cyclist safety and access, the provision for parking near the junction and the construction of a stopping lane for vehicles. These improvements are outside the current project scope, however, the upgrade will include some road widening, line marking and signage installation.

Other feedback

We have provided feedback received in relation to drainage, road maintenance and installation of bus shelters at the River Road junctions to the Mount Barker District Council and South Australian Public Transport Authority (SAPTA) for their consideration.

More information

If you have any further enquiries or would like to subscribe for updates, please visit www.dit.sa.gov.au/RiverRoad, email us at DIT.Engagement@sa.gov.au or call us on 1300 794 880.

Next steps

We would like to thank the community for providing feedback on the designs.

All feedback has been considered in line with the project objectives, scope and relevant guidelines and standards.

Early works are planned to start in early 2025, followed by main works, which are expected to be completed in late 2025.

We will need to relocate some existing services at the junctions of River Road with Mount Barker Road and Strathalbyn Road from late January to mid-2025.

These works will be undertaken from 7am to 7pm Monday to Friday. Some night works will be required. Nearby residents and businesses will be notified about night works in advance.

To keep everyone safe, there will be some short-term localised speed and lane restrictions in place.

There will be no impacts to bus stops or change to public transport services as part of service relocation activities, but we may need to temporarily restrict pedestrian and cyclist access near these junctions.

We'll maintain access for properties throughout the works wherever possible, with advance notice provided if there is a need to temporarily restrict driveway access. **Access for emergency vehicles will always be maintained.**

There may be some noise, vibration and dust during these works, but we will do our best to keep it to a minimum.

River Road and Fairview Road Junction Updated Design

