

# north-south corridor Darlington Upgrade Project Newsletter

Edition #1 Dec 2015



Welcome to the first edition of the Darlington Upgrade Project newsletter. We will produce these documents at regular intervals during the project to keep you informed on activities undertaken to date, upcoming works and specific topics of interest.

## What has happened to date?

The design has continued to develop to address community and stakeholder concerns wherever possible and provide the most effective transport solution.

Geotechnical, utility services and environmental investigations have also been undertaken along with further traffic modelling, noise and property condition assessments and property demolition works.

An upgrade of the intersection of Marion Road and Sturt Road has commenced, in order to manage the expected redistribution of traffic during construction of the Darlington Upgrade Project.

Importantly, a procurement process for the major works contract has been underway since April 2015 to select a preferred tenderer to construct the project.

## Major works contract award

Gateway South, a Joint Venture of Fulton Hogan and Laing O'Rourke, have been awarded the major works contract for the \$620 million project.

The team also includes KBR, Jacobs, SMEC, Coffey, Tract, Cox Architects, Resonate, Gould Thorpe Planning and Jensen Planning and Design.

Major works will commence in early 2016, with the project scheduled for completion by the end of 2018.



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## Design changes

The design of the project has changed in a number of areas as a result of further design development, community feedback and the procurement process. A summary of the most significant changes is outlined below:

- > Extension of the non-stop motorway 1km further north along Main South Road and grade separation of the Ayliffes Road and Tonsley Boulevard intersections.
- > Inclusion of a bridge between Sutton Road and Mimosa Terrace to provide enhanced east-west connectivity, connecting Flinders University to Tonsley.
- > Inclusion of a right turn out of Brookside Road onto Main South Road to provide north-bound access along Main South Road.
- > Removal of impact on Warriparinga - the project will no longer encroach into the Warriparinga area.

- > Realignment of the Flinders Drive extension to connect to Birch Crescent. The junction of Birch Crescent and Sturt Road will be signalised to enable safe traffic movements in and out of Clovelly Park. This will also provide enhanced connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists between Tonsley/Clovelly Park and the Flinders precinct through a dedicated shared use path along the Flinders Drive extension.
- > Realignment of the Sturt Road/Main South Road intersection to retain on-street parking in front of businesses and the left turn into Maple Avenue. This will also ensure that the remnant vegetation immediately west of the businesses are not impacted.
- > Enhanced cycling and walking facilities through the provision of separated, two-way cycling paths and dedicated footpaths along both sides of the corridor.
- > Removal of the proposed new road connection from Flinders Drive through the Francis Street Reserve.

Further details of the design and recent modifications will be provided in the Project Assessment Report, scheduled for release in early 2016.

## Flinders Link

The Tonsley rail line is being investigated to be extended to link the Flinders Medical Centre (FMC) and Flinders University to the existing passenger rail network, through the Flinders Link Project.

The project would require:

- > A 650 metre extension of the Tonsley rail line (linking the Flinders Medical Centre (FMC) and Flinders University to the rail network, including 520 metres of elevated single track over Sturt Road, Laffer's Triangle and Main South Road);
- > A new station adjacent the FMC;
- > An integrated shared pedestrian/cycle path adjacent the rail line; and
- > A review of station access and location benefits for the local community.





## Vegetation removal

In order to provide the required space for the new road corridor, vegetation will be removed in a number of locations within the project site.

The department has undertaken a formal planning process to seek approval for the removal of significant and remnant vegetation and has worked with the City of Mitcham and the City of Marion throughout this process.

This includes the removal of large gum trees along Main South Road, adjacent the Flinders University oval.

The first stage of vegetation removal began in mid December 2015 and involves the removal of vegetation in the following locations:

- > Along Main South Road between Sturt Road and Shepherds Hill Road
- > Along Main South Road and Sturt Road adjacent Flinders University oval
- > Within Laffer Triangle
- > Along Main South Road between Flinders Drive and the Southern Expressway

Removals will continue until late December 2015 and will recommence from January 2016.

Fauna inspections are undertaken prior to the works and any fauna discovered during the inspections will be safely relocated to an appropriate area.

Tree hollows will be salvaged and relocated to other suitable trees in the area to provide habitat for fauna. Large timber logs will also be harvested and relocated to other suitable areas to provide fauna habitat. Mulched tree material will be used within existing landscaped areas. The City of Marion has agreed to accept some of the salvaged hollows to provide alternative fauna habitats in their city.

A detailed landscape and urban design plan is currently being developed to offset vegetation removals and impacts to amenity. Details of the landscape and urban design plan will be released as soon as they are available.

## Utility services relocations

There are a significant amount of utility services within the project site which need to be relocated to support the major works. These include two major SA Water mains underneath Main South Road, sewer infrastructure, overhead and underground SA electricity lines, gas pipes and telecommunications lines.

The SA waterworks package valued at approximately \$30 million has been awarded to a local South Australian company, York Civil.

From mid December 2015 until early March 2016, works will be undertaken to house relocated telecommunications, gas and electricity lines. These works will be undertaken in the following locations:

- > Southern side of Sturt Road from Sutton Road to Main South Road
- > Eastern side of Main South Road between Sturt Road and Rupert Avenue
- > Along the new Flinders Drive extension alignment to Birch Crescent
- > Underneath Main South Road just south of Sturt Road, up to the LoneStar building
- > Northern side of Sturt Road, between Birch Crescent and Bradley Grove

In order to minimise disruption to traffic, the majority of the works will be undertaken via a method called 'under boring' which involves drilling horizontally under roads rather than trenching across the road. This means that access will be maintained during construction, under traffic restrictions.

To further minimise impacts, the majority of works will be undertaken at night. Advance notice of any service outages will also be provided.

There will be some impact to pedestrian access on the eastern side of South Road and the southern side of Sturt Road. Signage will be installed to advise pedestrians of alternative routes.

In early 2016 major works will commence to relocate the SA Water mains. Further information regarding these works will be provided in the next newsletter. Specific information regarding these works will be provided to adjacent property owners and stakeholders prior to the works commencing.

## Project Assessment Report

The Project Assessment Report will be released in early 2016 for public feedback.

The report is a comprehensive document that will explain the need for the project, describe the project and summarise the environmental, social, economic and engineering assessments undertaken.

It will also provide details of the design that will be constructed and explain the modifications that have been made to as a result of further investigations and community feedback.

The report will be publically displayed for a period of 3 - 4 weeks and submissions on any issues or opportunities associated with the project will be invited during this time from the community and stakeholders.

## Information session

A community information session will be held early next year at a date to be confirmed at the project site office: Level 2, Sir Mark Oliphant Building, 5 Laffer Drive, Bedford Park.

As per previous information sessions, it will provide members of the community with the opportunity to find out more about the revised project design, the Flinders Link Project and to speak to members of the project team.

# Community engagement

Community engagement is a critical part of the Darlington Upgrade Project and we are committed to keeping you informed about the project's progress and seeking your feedback.

To provide your comments, find out more about the project or speak to a member of the project team, you can:

**call: 1300 759 334**

**email: [dpti.darlington@sa.gov.au](mailto:dpti.darlington@sa.gov.au)**

**visit: [infrastructure.sa.gov.au/darlington](http://infrastructure.sa.gov.au/darlington)**

**visit the project office at Level 2, Sir Mark Oliphant Building, 5 Laffer Drive, Bedford Park**

Note: The office will be closed from Wednesday 23 December 2015 until Monday 4 January 2016 for the Christmas holiday break.

## Next edition

The next edition of our newsletter will be distributed in early 2016 and will include information on the following:

- > Construction program and staging of works
- > Traffic management during works
- > Management of dust, vibration and noise during construction

**If you have a specific topic which you would like to be added to future newsletters please feel free to contact us via the contact details above – we would love to hear from you.**