

Project update

Samford Road and Wardell Street intersection upgrade



The Department of Transport and Main Roads would like to thank everyone for providing feedback during the consultation on the concept plan for the Samford Road and Wardell Street intersection upgrade.

We received more than 850 responses either directly at the public displays or via feedback forms, emails and phone.

We are reviewing all feedback to update and improve the current concept plan.

All comments relevant to Brisbane City Council, TransLink and the Department of Defence have been provided for their consideration.

We would like to update you on the top five topics raised during consultation.

Was an Overpass considered?

A large number of comments were received either in support of, or opposed to, an overpass being introduced.

Initially an overpass did not form part of the department's early option development as it did not align with approved long-term planning.

However, in response to public comments, the project team undertook a review of an overpass as an option. It is still considered that a surface level upgrade is more suitable as it:

- is consistent with long-term planning for the area
- provides significant time savings – up to 70%
- has fewer property impacts
- would be cheaper than an overpass
- can be constructed quicker
- has potential lower noise and visual pollution issues.

No right-turn ban for northbound Wardell Street traffic into Samford Road eastbound

There were a number of comments that the possible right-turn ban would be inconvenient and could encourage rat-running.

After further assessment, a right-turn ban will not be implemented.

Does the upgrade consider growth in the surrounding area?

Consultation highlighted concerns that the upgrade may not accommodate future traffic demands.

The concept plan was developed using a number of recognised transport models, including the state's regional transport model.

This model estimates future traffic and travel demands based on planned land use and population changes as well as the influence of other planned road network improvements.

This includes the consideration of a western orbital motorway from Toowong to Everton Park, in tunnel, as identified in *Connecting SEQ 2031: An Integrated Regional Transport Plan for South East Queensland*.

The modelling of the intersection also considered local developments such as the current upgrade to the Enoggera Army barracks.

Access to and from local roads

Local residents provided a range of comments about planned access changes to and from local roads.

The concept plan suggested a number of possible access changes intended to improve traffic flow, safety and to encourage vehicles to stay on appropriate roads.

The department is reviewing community feedback and undertaking further technical assessments to assess the appropriateness of any future changes.

Rat running

As well as being identified as a current issue, the public were concerned that the concept plan could encourage other rat-running.

As an upgrade of the intersection will improve traffic flows and journey times on both Samford Road and Wardell Street, traffic would be less likely to rat-run through the local streets.

What is happening next?

Interim works on the left-turn lane extension from Wardell Street southern leg to Samford Road western leg started last month.

Works include extending the left-turn lane, realignment of the footpath and some localised repair works.

The project team is continuing to undertake a number of technical investigations such as traffic modelling, pavement testing, cultural heritage assessments and surveying.

We will also continue to assess community feedback from the consultation period as we further refine the concept plan.

Noise monitoring was recently conducted at key locations in the local area to record current noise levels.

This will enable an assessment to be made of future noise levels with an upgrade to determine if any mitigation measures are required.

Surveying was also recently undertaken to develop a more detailed understanding of land levels in the study area.

This information is required to enable accurate and detailed planning layouts to be developed.

If you would like to receive regular project updates, please send your email address to: samford.wardell@tmr.qld.gov.au or phone the project enquiry line on 1800 045 348*.

Contact us

For more information about the project

- **Visit** the Samford Road and Wardell Street intersection planning study website at www.tmr.qld.gov.au and search for 'Samford Wardell'.
- **Email** your feedback to samford.wardell@tmr.qld.gov.au.
- **Call** the community enquiry line on 1800 045 348*. (**Free call from anywhere in Australia, call charges apply for calls from mobile phones and payphones.*)
- **Write to**
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