

Interchanges

The Department of Main Roads has established SAFELink Alliance to deliver the Ipswich Motorway Upgrade from Wacol to Darra. Construction is underway and is due for completion in December 2010.

What is an interchange?

Interchanges are a system of interconnecting roadways at the junction of two or more roads combining ramps and grade separations. They provide the greatest efficiency, safety and capacity for handling large volumes of traffic.

There are two categories of interchanges:

- » system interchanges
- » service interchanges.

System interchanges

A system interchange is a connection between two major roads such as a motorway or highway. The interchange provides free traffic flow between both major roads.

Service interchanges

A service interchange is a link between a major and minor road. Service interchanges provide access for local traffic to a motorway or highway from residential, commercial and industrial areas with lower traffic volumes.



System interchange: the current Centenary Highway Interchange at Darra.



Service interchange: Progress Road Interchange at Wacol.



Ipswich Motorway Upgrade Wacol to Darra

A new Centenary Highway Interchange

The existing Centenary Highway roundabout will be replaced with a multi-level system interchange that will provide free flowing, designated lanes between the Ipswich Motorway and Centenary Highway.

The new Centenary Highway Interchange will include 13 bridges, including six over the Ipswich Motorway, which will provide uninterrupted and safer traffic flow between the Centenary Highway and Ipswich Motorway.

This will help reduce congestion on these major roads, therefore increasing reliability and providing better travel time and improved safety for motorists.

Planning considerations

The design and planning of the new Centenary Highway Interchange was influenced by a number of factors:

- » road classification
- » volume, character and composition of traffic
- » operating speed of both major roads



Multi-level system interchange: an artist's impression of the new Centenary Highway Interchange

- » surrounding land use
- » physical constraints
- » environmental constraints
- » available funding
- » cost.

Designers and planners gave careful consideration to all of these factors in order to develop the best solution for the Centenary Highway Interchange.



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*Higher rates apply from mobile phones and pay phones. If calling from outside of Queensland, STD rates will apply.

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**Please remember that safety around roadworks is a two-way street.
We ask that you drive carefully and responsibly during these construction works.**