The Department of Transport and Main Roads is encouraging the community to get involved and have their say on the draft plan to realign the Cunningham Highway. The draft plan details proposed changes between the Yamanto Interchange and Ebenezer Creek and the upgrade of the Cunningham Highway/Ipswich-Rosewood Road intersection.

The upgrade project aims to reduce congestion and improve safety along this section of the highway. It will also service additional traffic expected to be generated from the proposed Aerospace Defence Support Centre, ongoing expansion of the RAAF Airbase at Amberley and the proposed Ebenezer Regional Industrial Area.

The Cunningham Highway forms part of the Australian Government’s National Land Transport Network. This upgrade will provide greater efficiency in the movement of interstate and interregional freight to the Port of Brisbane and the Australia Trade Coast precinct.

Detailed investigations including engineering and traffic analysis as well as flora and fauna surveys have helped develop a draft plan that suits the identified needs and minimises impact to the surrounding environment.

The draft plan is now available for comment and will be on display from Monday 22 August to Friday 16 September 2011. Your feedback and the results of ongoing technical and environmental studies will help finalise the preferred plan.
Connecting to the old highway

The draft plan for the proposed upgrade of the Cunningham Highway between Yamanto and Ebenezer has been developed to allow staged upgrades into the future. As an initial step, two options have been developed to connect the new deviation to the old highway which will become a service road. These staging options are dependent on further detailed analysis and investigation and future available funding for construction.

When funding for design and construction of the Cunningham Highway/Amberley Intersection upgrade is made available, the department will present the final upgrade option to the community during the detailed design phase.

Interim works

As an interim measure to improve safety prior to the delivery of this project, The department is investigating installing traffic signals at the intersection of Ipswich-Rosewood Road. The department is also assisting the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation with the design of a new intersection for access to the proposed Aerospace and Defence Support Centre at Amberley. Details and the timing of installing new traffic signals will be released in late 2011.

Public displays

From Monday 22 August to Friday 16 September 2011, staffed displays will be available at the following times and locations:

**Yamanto Shopping Village**, 502-510 Warwick Road, Yamanto
- Thursday 8 September 2011 from 4pm to 6pm
- Saturday 10 September 2011 from 10am to 12pm

Fixed displays will also be available for viewing at libraries and at the offices of local elected representatives’ offices. Fixed display sites are:

- **Ipswich Library**, 40 South Street, Ipswich
- **Department of Transport and Main Roads Ipswich Office**, Ground floor, Shop R3, 30 Limestone Street, Ipswich
- **Ipswich City Council Customer Service Centre**, 143 Brisbane Street, Ipswich
- **Office of Wayne Wendt**, Member for Ipswich West, shop 1 Brassall Shopping Centre, 68 Hunter Street, Brassall
- **Office of the Honourable Rachel Nolan**, Member for Ipswich, 125 Brisbane Road, Booval
- **Office of Ian Rickuss**, Member for Lockyer, shop 1, 47 North Street, Gatton

Newsletters will also be available for collection from all fixed display locations.

Next steps

The department will continue detailed investigations and complete a business case for the upgrade to this section of the Cunningham Highway, taking into account feedback from the community. Once the business case is complete, submissions will be prepared to the Australian Government to seek funding for the upgrade.

The preferred plan is expected to be available for comment in early 2012.

Project phases

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>Post 2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>STAGE 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>STAGE 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>STAGE 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>STAGE 4</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Carry out the Preliminary Evaluation process. Gather information and allow opportunity for the community to provide feedback.</td>
<td>Release of the draft plan to the community for feedback. Completion of business case.</td>
<td>Release of the preferred plan to the community for feedback. Finalise business case and funding submissions to the Australian Government.</td>
<td>Construction (pending funding).</td>
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<tr>
<td>completed</td>
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