

October 2016

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

## Southport–Burleigh Road network improvement program Central section (Vespa Crescent to Monaco Street Bridge)

### What is the Southport–Burleigh Road network improvement program?

The Department of Transport and Main Roads is upgrading an 8km section of Southport–Burleigh Road spanning from North Street in Southport to just south of Rudd Street in Broadbeach Waters.

The upgrade will provide long-term benefits to the community by increasing the road network capacity, improving traffic flows and easing congestion.

The Southport–Burleigh Road network improvement program is being delivered in three separate work packages:

- [Northern section – North Street to Vespa Crescent](#)
  - Construction commenced January 2016 and is expected to be completed early 2017.
- [Central section – Vespa Crescent to Monaco Street Bridge](#)
  - Construction to commence in October 2016 and is expected to be completed late 2017.
- [Southern section – Fremar Street to Rudd Street](#)
  - Construction commenced February 2016 and is expected to be completed late 2016.

### Why is an upgrade needed?

The Gold Coast is the fastest growing city in Queensland and the transport network is already feeling the pressure.

Southport–Burleigh Road caters for approximately 3,600 vehicles per hour during peak times and 3,200 vehicles per hour in off-peak. An upgrade is needed to cater for current and expected future traffic volumes on the Gold Coast.

Delivery of this project will also help ensure the road network on the Gold Coast is in good shape ahead of the Commonwealth Games in 2018.

### What is the cost of the Southport–Burleigh Road network improvement program?

The Queensland Government has committed \$104 million to upgrade Southport–Burleigh Road. This project is part of a \$158.2 million package of upgrade projects designed to improve network capacity on key Gold Coast routes.

This funding commitment includes costs related to planning, design, public service utility relocations and construction.

For more information on the \$158.2 million package of road network upgrade projects refer to the [June 2015 brochure Road network improvements – Gold Coast \(PDF, 2.73 MB\)](#). (Note: savings generated from construction of the Ross Street and Ashmore Road intersection upgrade has resulted in a decreased value from the original \$160.7 million package announced in 2015).

### What are they key features of the central section upgrade?

Key features of the upgrade include:

- Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI) at the Bundall Road, Ashmore Road and Salerno Street intersection to allow more vehicles to travel through the intersection efficiently.
- Widening Bundall Road from four lanes to six lanes in both directions.
- Bridge widening works at the Monaco Street Bridge.

- Upgrading pedestrian and bicycle access, including the construction of a shared off-road cycle and pedestrian pathway along the eastern side through to Nerang River Bridge.
- Upgrading public transport infrastructure including two new bus stops.
- Intersection works including electrical and traffic signal works.
- Services relocations.
- Pavement and resurfacing works.
- Vegetation clearing and trimming.
- Two new U-turn facilities for both north and southbound traffic.

### **Is there provision for cyclists?**

Cyclists will have access to a new off-road shared cycle and pedestrian pathway on the eastern side of Southport–Burleigh Road, from North Street in Southport to the Nerang River Bridge in Bundall, where it meets with existing pathways.

### **Will on-street parking be affected?**

As Southport–Burleigh Road runs through a highly constrained urban corridor, existing parking lanes will be converted to through lanes. Using the parking lanes to create an additional traffic lane in each direction is a cost effective way of tackling congestion, while minimising impacts on properties adjacent to the road. The current bustop and loading bay amenities out the front of Sorrento Shopping Village will remain.

### **Will any private land be required for the upgrade?**

Transport and Main Roads assesses construction works for a project based on improving safety and efficiency of the road network and providing the best option for the community in relation to road infrastructure. In order to do that it is sometimes necessary to acquire privately-owned land for construction purposes.

Wherever possible, the department tries to avoid impacting private property but resumptions cannot be avoided in all cases. Where there is a land requirement, property impacts are normally identified in the early planning stages of projects, so landowners can be notified as soon as practically possible.

In line with this, land for this project has already been acquired and cleared in preparation for construction to commence. No further land requirements are proposed.

### **Will noise barriers be installed as part of this project?**

Road traffic noise is recognised as a concern for many people living adjacent to or near motorways and arterial roads that have high traffic volumes and individual noisy vehicles.

Transport and Main Roads manages road traffic noise in accordance with the *Transport Noise Management Code of Practice Volume 1 – Road Traffic Noise November 2013*. The Code of Practice sets out standard processes for dealing with the effects of road traffic noise on properties adjacent to state-controlled roads.

Prior to construction, baseline noise monitoring at various locations along the corridor was completed. The noise readings are currently well below the noise level criteria that must be satisfied for the department to consider the implementation of noise reducing treatments, and as such, funding for any noise mitigation has not been allocated as part of this project.

An independent acoustic engineer was engaged to forecast the predicted noise levels on Southport–Burleigh Road with consideration to the future traffic volumes and the upgrade of Southport–Burleigh Road to three lanes in each direction. At project completion, noise monitoring will again be undertaken to confirm the forecast noise level and assess any changes.

### **Will there be any changes to bus stops in the area?**

As part of this project, public transport infrastructure will be upgraded, and two new bus stops will be constructed.

The southbound Sorrento Shopping Village bus stop (number 300563) which is currently located at the front of Stan Elson Park on La Spezia Court, will be permanently relocated to the north of Boomerang Crescent, opposite the Sorrento Shopping Village, at a newly constructed bus bay within the median of the CFI.

In addition to this, a new bus stop will be also be constructed within the northbound median of the CFI to accommodate routes servicing Salerno Street and Surfers Paradise.

The current bus stop northbound out the front of Sorrento Shopping village will also remain.

## Continuous Flow Intersection

### What is a CFI?

Continuous Flow Intersections, or CFI, is an innovative solution to traffic congestion that allows more vehicles to travel through the intersection efficiently.

This is achieved by allowing opposing traffic movements to travel through the intersection in a continuous movement by using dedicated lanes for right turning vehicles on the right-hand side of oncoming traffic.

Right-hand turn traffic lanes are removed from the intersection, allowing through traffic movements to flow for longer periods of time, resulting in more vehicles flowing through the intersection at each signal phase.

### How does a CFI work?

Traditional intersections have right-turning vehicles in the middle of the road, so through traffic coming in the opposite direction must wait for these vehicles to turn.

A CFI removes right-turning traffic from the intersection by placing the right-hand turn lanes to the far right outside edge of the road.

This movement begins south of the Salerno Street intersection at Boomerang Crescent, where through-traffic moves through the middle of the intersection at the same time as the right-turning traffic continues to turn right.

This continuous flow of traffic increases the number of vehicles that can travel through the intersection, reducing congestion and increasing safety.

### How do I navigate the Salerno Street and Ashmore Road CFI?

1. Start by lining up in one of the two right-turn lanes at the Boomerang Crescent intersection when travelling north-bound.
2. When the right-turn signal turns green, drive across the oncoming traffic lanes (they will be stopped on a red signal) into a newly created lane on the far right side of the road.
3. You will then be stopped at another signal at the end of the right-hand turn lanes at the Salerno Street entry. Wait for the traffic signal to turn green and proceed to make your right turn into Salerno Street.

New and obvious line marking, pavement colouring and signage will direct traffic through the intersection.

### What are the benefits of a CFI?

Key benefits of a CFI include:

- The double right-hand turn into Salerno Street opens a new route for motorists travelling into Surfers Paradise.
- The CFI will result in improved travel times and a reduction in delays previously experienced at the intersection.
- The CFI allows for a larger volume of vehicles to travel through the intersection during single signal phases.
- Safety will be enhanced as a result of the CFI due to fewer potential conflict points in the middle of the intersection.

- The CFI will reduce pressure on other intersections in the area such as Thomas Drive, Chevron Island, and further reducing congestion on Southport–Burleigh Road.
- Having undertaken research into traffic solutions around the globe, it was decided the CFI provides better value for money while allowing for a faster construction solution than other options.

### **Why is there no right-hand turn into Ashmore Road when travelling south-bound on Southport–Burleigh Road?**

Initial investigations into the right-hand turn into Ashmore Road found that there is currently not enough available land to construct a dedicated right-hand turn lane.

The project is focused on the eastern side of the roadway in this area and the acquisition of property already undertaken. The Salerno Street intersection was given priority for these reasons.

The additional traffic access to Surfers Paradise and the expected improvements the CFI will make to other intersections on the corridor was considered a priority.

### **How will the new lanes fit within the intersection?**

To provide an improved and safer road network for the community, it is sometimes necessary for the department to acquire additional land for construction purposes. Wherever possible, impacts to private property are avoided but resumptions are sometimes required.

Land on the eastern side of Bundall Road has already been acquired and cleared in preparation for construction to commence in this section. No further resumptions are proposed.

## **Construction**

### **Who is undertaking construction?**

Georgiou Group has been awarded the contract for construction and will complete the upgrade on behalf of the department.

### **What are the project timeframes?**

Major construction in the central section will begin in October 2016 and is expected to be complete in late 2017. Please note that wet weather, contractor and site conditions may change this work schedule.

### **What are the construction hours?**

Where possible, works will be completed during the day. Where work cannot safely be completed or if lane closures are required, works will generally be completed at night when traffic volumes are lower.

Day works will generally take place between the hours of 6am to 6pm.

### **What can I expect during construction?**

During construction, motorists, residents and businesses can expect changes to the existing traffic conditions including detours, reduced lanes and reduced speed limits.

It is a challenge managing and undertaking roadworks in an already busy traffic environment and unfortunately delays for motorists do sometimes result. Motorists and residents should expect increased congestion and traffic on Southport–Burleigh Road, Ashmore Road, Salerno Street and on surrounding routes.

Nearby residents and businesses can expect construction activities that may cause increased noise, dust, light and vibration around the work zone. Impacts will be monitored and minimised where possible.

There will also be some changes to pedestrian and cyclist access around the work zones. All changes will be clearly signposted.

Changes to traffic conditions or expected construction impacts will be communicated via works notifications, website updates, electronic signage and traffic control measures. Residents, businesses and other road users are encouraged to register to receive construction updates by contacting the project team.

### **Will any trees be removed for the CFI?**

The department is committed to managing its road network in a manner that optimises outcomes for the natural, social and built environments.

The department uses a range of environmental expertise to develop detailed management plans to ensure all of its road projects are environmentally sustainable. Vegetation clearing for any road improvement works are kept to a minimum and only carried out where necessary.

In the case of the Salerno Street and Ashmore Road CFI, some vegetation will be removed to make way for new infrastructure. The small parcel of land between the roadway and the canal waterfront will be revegetated.

A vegetation management plan is being developed and a renewal of vegetation in the area will be undertaken during the construction period.

### **Will there be any changes to the current speed limit?**

To ensure the safety of road users and roadworkers during construction, reduced speed limits will be in place within the works zone. Motorists and road users should take care while travelling through the works zone.

Motorists should also note that the speed limit on Southport–Burleigh Road has been permanently reduced to 60 kilometres per hour from North Street in Southport through to Rudd Street in Broadbeach Waters. Unless signed otherwise, this speed reduction is now in place and permanent.

### **How will traffic be managed during construction?**

The project team attempts to minimise disruption to existing traffic flow by performing works out of peak times and at night. However, this must be balanced against a variety of other considerations, including noise levels for nearby residents and businesses and the need to deliver vital projects as quickly as possible.

During construction of the CFI, traffic changes will be in place at the Ashmore Road and Salerno Street intersection. This will include short-term detours during night shifts.

Motorists are advised to plan ahead and be ready by calling 13 19 40 or visiting [www.qldtraffic.qld.gov.au](http://www.qldtraffic.qld.gov.au) for traffic and travel information.

### **Will access to my property change?**

During construction, access to properties will be maintained whenever possible, however there will be times when access is disrupted, such as when new road pavement is being laid in the kerbside traffic lanes. The construction contractor will keep residents informed when to expect such disruptions.

### **Will there be any night works?**

Night works will occur in various locations in both directions of Bundall Road throughout the project, and will generally be undertaken between 7pm to 6am. Nearby residents will be notified in advance of any upcoming night works that might be planned for their area.

### **What will the Nerang River bridge widening works involve?**

The Nerang River Bridge will be widened on the eastern side to accommodate a third traffic lane and upgrades to the current pedestrian access.

The widening of this bridge will use piles (concrete columns) to form a solid foundation to support the structure. The method to install the piles depends on factors such as soil type and the size of the load each pile must bear.

**Bored piles** involve the installation of a permanent steel liner into the ground. Once in place, the liner is excavated using a piling rig to create a circular hole. A steel reinforced cage is then lowered into the hole and concrete is poured to create the pile. This method generally creates less noise during construction.

**Driven piles** involve the installation of pre-cast piles which are brought to site and lifted into place with a crane. When in place, a piling rig drives each pile into the ground to a pre-determined depth. This method of piling is generally noisy with a constant 'bang, bang' sound as the piles are driven into the ground.

Piling can create audible noise and increased levels of vibration. The project team has appropriate management strategies and monitoring will be in place, for the duration of the project.

Where possible, piling works will be completed during the day however some overnight deliveries to site will be required during night works.

### Where is the site office located?

The main site compound is located at Jack Gaven Park, Broadbeach Waters. Smaller satellite offices and material layover areas may also be established within the project corridor.

### How can I get more information or keep up-to-date?

Residents will receive a letterbox flyer if there is to be any impact to their property or access requirements during construction.

Motorists will be advised of changed traffic conditions via static and electronic roadside signage, or can phone 13 19 40 or visit [www.qldtraffic.qld.gov.au](http://www.qldtraffic.qld.gov.au) for up-to-date information on traffic disruptions.

Members of the public can subscribe to receive free SMS text messages or email traffic alerts when road and traffic conditions change during construction.

An email group has also been established for those who wish to receive project information updates such as progress against milestones, timeframes, upcoming works and the like.

For any questions about the design and construction of these works, or to register for the above services, contact the project team on:

Phone: 1800 227 561\* (select option 2)

Email: [southportburleighroadcentral@georgiou.com.au](mailto:southportburleighroadcentral@georgiou.com.au)

Web: [www.tmr.qld.gov.au/projects](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/projects)

Post: The Department of Transport and Main Roads  
PO Box 442, Nerang Qld 4211