



# Media Release

23 January 2017

## **Cockburn welcomes Murdoch Activity Centre Link announcement**

The City of Cockburn has welcomed yesterday's announcement by Transport Minister Rita Saffioti that Main Roads WA (MRWA) will build the least disruptive of four options proposed for the new \$100m Murdoch Activity Centre (MAC) Link.

Construction of Option 4 – the City's preferred route – will begin early in 2018, resulting in the least impact on local roads in terms of traffic numbers and congestion, when compared to the other three options proposed by MRWA.

WA Transport Minister Rita Saffioti and Federal Minister for Urban Infrastructure and Cities, Paul Fletcher, announced the project late on 22 January.

Cockburn Chief Executive Officer Stephen Cain said Option 4 would minimise the impact on local roads, and had the support of Bibra Lake Residents Association.

"The State is committed to delivering a major road link into the Murdoch Activity Centre from the freeway interchange to the south with the Roe Highway, and we have worked collaboratively with all major stakeholders to shape the best outcome with the least impact for our residents," Mr Cain said.

"While it's a compromise on what we would have preferred, as the City proposed an option for a dual roundabout on Farrington Road, this option would have required more land from Murdoch University and placed the connecting road in close proximity to the conservation category wetland.

"Option 4 does not require additional land nor will it have other environmental constraints."

In contrast, the City and its engineering consultants believe Option 2 – MRWA's preferred option – would have had a significant detrimental impact on Bibra Drive, Hope Road and Progress Drive.

"There would have been a substantial increase in traffic and congestion, detracting from the local amenity of the area for residents," Mr Cain said.



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“Local schools including Blue Gum Montessori would have experienced a loss of amenity and possibly an increased safety risk to students.

“Using Hope Road for access to the school would have become very problematic as there is no capacity for the City to widen Bibra Drive due to its proximity to the regional park.”

As a result of lobbying by the City, the State Government added \$15m to the project, to provide a Farrington Road flyover from Kwinana Freeway to the MAC, which will also provide free-flowing traffic access without affecting the east-west traffic on Farrington Road.

## **What does Option 4 look like:**

- All North-bound traffic will exit the Murdoch Precinct via Bibra Drive
- South-bound traffic will continue to exit the Murdoch Precinct via the Murdoch Drive/Farrington Road intersection
- There is no direct east-west link

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