



Media Release

9 May 2017

Cockburn ready for transport transformation

Yesterday's announcement by the Federal and State Governments of a raft of major transport projects across Cockburn will transform the City. With traffic congestion reported as the biggest issue in the City, Cockburn's residents and businesses will reap the benefits of reduced travel times and more travel options.

The road, bridge and rail package is the biggest transport initiative in the City's history and includes:

- A new Armadale Road bridge to North Lake Road, with ramps on and off the Freeway (\$237 million);
- Widening of Kwinana Freeway northbound from Russell Road to Roe Highway (\$49 million); and
- Karel Avenue dual carriageway from Farrington Road to Berrigan Drive (\$15 million).

By 2025, the City's expects to have more than 148,000 people calling Cockburn home; a population increase of 35%. Cockburn Mayor Logan Howlett said easing traffic congestion is the number one priority given in feedback from the community.

After two years of joint lobbying with the City of Armadale as part of the *Community Connect South* (CCS) project, what was once a vision will now become a reality. Works on the \$237 million Armadale Road to North Lake Road Bridge is expected to commence in Financial Year 2018/19; with the Government also keen on bringing forward the \$145 million project to widen Armadale Road (Tapper to Anstey Roads). The new bridge will ease traffic congestion in the Cockburn Central area and improve connectivity to Perth, Fremantle and Armadale.

The \$49 million needed to widen the Kwinana Freeway northbound lanes between Russell Road and Roe highway, also expected to begin in Financial Year 2018/19 is a key factor in keeping traffic moving in the current pinch point.

In addition to this, \$470 million will be allocated to the construction of the much-



Media Release

anticipated Thornlie to Cockburn Line as part of the future METRONET project. Estimated to commence in 2019 and to be completed in 2021, the Thornlie to Cockburn Line, as part of the commencement of the Southern Circle Line, will connect east to west and also ease traffic congestion. The new line will also make easier for Cockburn residents to enjoy a day at the football with the line linking to the new Perth Stadium at Burswood.

The announcement of further improvements to the public transport system follows on the benefits residents are already enjoying from the recent opening of the Aubin Grove train station.

“This is a big win for Cockburn’s residential and business communities,” said Cockburn Mayor Logan Howlett.

“Our road networks are struggling. Commuters currently using Cockburn Central train station are stuck in traffic for up to 45 minutes trying to exit the station’s eastern carpark,” said Cockburn Mayor Logan Howlett.

“The package will mean less time stuck in traffic and easier access to our freeways and train stations.”

Mayor Howlett also acknowledged the efforts of local members of parliament in pursuing these projects. “While the City lobbied hard, work since the State election by the Hon Francis Logan, Roger Cook, Peter Tinley and new local member Mr Yaz Mubarakai meant that Cockburn were favourably considered when the priority list for funding was finalised.”

The City will do all it can to assist the Government in the delivery of its commitments. The new projects won’t happen overnight, but the outcome for Cockburn will be transformational.

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