



Hon Stirling Hinchliffe MP
Member for Stafford



Minister for Infrastructure and Planning

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Demolition begins on old Gateway Motorway Overpass

Demolition of the old Gateway Motorway Overpass will begin tonight as work progresses on the \$327 million Airport Roundabout Upgrade project.

Minister for Infrastructure and Planning Stirling Hinchliffe said demolition of the old overpass would allow for the continued construction of the 21m high flyover and the introduction of a signalised 'fast diamond' intersection. He said the Airport Link project would eliminate the roundabout known as Brisbane's worst bottleneck.

The demolition involves the step by step removal of sections of the old bridge and support structures. Construction will continue on the new 750m long over pass which will allow drivers to avoid the intersection.

"In the last few weeks, both the north and southbound lanes on the Gateway Motorway near the roundabout switched to the new overpass, allowing demolition to start on the old overpass and retaining wall," Mr Hinchliffe said.

"The demolition of the old Gateway Motorway Overpass is a three step process which will be undertaken over a three-week period, with the bridge decks and piers removed first, followed by the reinforced earth wall and the earth mound embankments.

"The work is occurring both day and night and involves directional closures of the roundabout with sign posted detours during night time operations.

"The leftover material is stockpiled in the centre of the roundabout overnight and removed during the day to minimise disruption.

"Once the existing bridge structure is removed, construction will continue on the East West flyover and the signalised 'fast diamond' intersection which will ultimately replace the notorious Airport Roundabout.

"In one year's time, the elimination of the roundabout and the completed upgrade are expected to slash more than 10 minutes off trips to and from the Airport during peak periods.

"Around 3000 workers are currently employed on the combined Airport Link projects which are expected to generate a total of close to 10,000 jobs. So far nearly eight million hours have been worked on the projects."



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Thiess John Holland Project Director Gordon Ralph said work for the flyover was progressing well with 11 of a total 12 bridge piers now in various stages of construction along East West Arterial Road and Airport Drive.

“With the demolition of the old overpass now underway, work can soon begin on the twelfth pier,” Mr Ralph said.

“152 of a total 436 bridge segments have now been erected for the East West flyover, and will continue being progressively installed until October this year.

On completion, the Airport Roundabout Upgrade will connect with the Airport Link toll road from entry and exit ramps located on East West Arterial Road, allowing fast travel from Brisbane city to the airport avoiding up to 18 sets of lights. The upgrade will not be tolled.

The project involves:

- Constructing a new four lane 750m bridge linking East West Arterial Road and Airport Drive over the Gateway Motorway overpass
- Replacing the existing Gateway Motorway overpass at the roundabout with a new four lane overpass
- Replacing the existing roundabout with a high capacity signalised intersection
- The upgrade of the intersection at East West Arterial and Nudgee Roads
- Improved connections to the airport precinct, the Gateway Motorway and Kingsford Smith Drive
- Widening of East West Arterial Road to three traffic lanes in each direction and
- Surface road improvements to Airport Drive.

Visit www.brisconnections.com.au to register for SMS and email updates on traffic changes and project progress.

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