

community update



March 2010



CHALLENGE FOR 2010

BUILDING AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT



As we move into the project's second year of construction, Thiess John Holland remains focused on the safe delivery of an intensive program of work in 2010.

With construction in full swing, the project will reach its peak employment mid-year when more than 2,600 personnel are working to deliver the Airport Link, Northern Busway (Windsor to Kedron) and Airport Roundabout Upgrade Project.

Project Director Gordon Ralph says the year ahead will continue to bring numerous challenges and complexities that come with construction of such a large-scale project — the most significant being the densely populated northern suburbs situated within the project corridor.

Our construction environment consists of 31,000 households within the corridor with 8,000 people living next to, or within close proximity to, our nine major worksites.

We understand our construction activities inconvenience and impact some residents, as construction of this scale certainly has an impact on the local communities.

The projects will bring significant benefits to the people of Brisbane when complete, but in the meantime our team will continue to deliver these projects in a responsible manner, looking to improve our performance and minimise the impacts.

What you'll see in 2010

APRIL 2010 AIRPORT ROUNDABOUT UPGRADE	The new Gateway Motorway overpass opens to traffic	MID 2010 KEDRON	Construction commences for the Airport Link Operations Centre located at Stafford Road
MID-LATE MAY 2010 LUTWYCHE	Construction of Lutwyche Road busway bridge complete and traffic switched to the new alignment. Construction commences for the steel structure of the Lutwyche Busway Station	MID-LATE 2010 BOWEN HILLS	Construction of Ventilation Station complete, and mechanical and electrical fit-out commences
FIRST HALF 2010 TOOMBUL	Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) launch box complete and first TBM launched from Kalinga Park to excavate the mainline Airport Link tunnels	NOVEMBER 2010 BOWEN HILLS	Lutwyche Road northbound on-ramp opens to connect traffic to the Inner City Bypass and Clem7 tunnel; traffic switched to the new alignment

Stay informed

Follow construction progress by visiting www.brisconnections.com.au where you can view our Photo and Video Gallery and sign up for email and SMS updates. You can also drop into the Airport Link Visitor Information Centre located at Centro Lutwyche Shopping Centre to view 3D models, videos and displays about the project. (Open Wednesday - Saturday).





TUNNELLING UNDERWAY FOR NORTHERN BUSWAY

A milestone was reached on the Northern Busway Project early this year when roadheader tunnelling commenced from the Truro Street site, Windsor in Brisbane's north. Approximately 30 metres of the 1.5 kilometre busway tunnel, extending from Windsor through to Kedron, has been excavated to date.

The roadheader was proudly named 'Sandora' by 14-year-old Jackson Harris from Gordon Park scout group, whose winning name describes an imaginary beast said to live under the earth.

Project Director Gordon Ralph said the Northern Busway tunnel will be constructed above the Airport Link

mainline tunnel, making the project a complex and challenging operation.

"Excavation of the busway tunnel involves 700 metres of roadheader tunnelling and 850 metres of cut and cover construction," said Mr Ralph.

'Cut and cover construction', a method of excavating and constructing tunnels from the surface rather than underground, is being used in both the Lutwyche and Kedron precincts to build sections of the Northern Busway tunnel.

Tunnel excavation and concreting for the tunnel roof is progressing from the Lamington Avenue and Chalk Street sites in Lutwyche, and more than 60 precast beams will be installed during March to provide support for the tunnel.

In the Kedron precinct, from Broughton Road north to Somerset Road, cut and cover construction will soon commence for the tunnel structure where buses will exit the Northern Busway onto Gympie Road.

At the southern (city) end of the Northern Busway, along Bowen Bridge Road, foundation piling is in progress from a purpose-built piling jetty in Enoggera Creek.

Bridge piers and supports are being constructed for the Northern Busway bridge, which will eventually connect with stage one of the Northern Busway at the Royal Brisbane Hospital, and cross over Enoggera Creek and Lutwyche Road to link with the new Federation Street bus stop.



The Northern Busway (Windsor to Kedron) will feature two new busway stations at Lutwyche and Kedron.

Construction of the steel structure for the Lutwyche Busway Station will commence first in May 2010, and tunnelling together with architectural works to complete the busway stations, will continue through to 2011.

DID YOU KNOW?

A section of Lutwyche Road is being converted into a bridge to enable construction of the new Lutwyche Busway Station. Once the bridge is complete in mid-late May 2010, the Lutwyche Road southbound lanes will be shifted back to the original road alignment.



UPGRADING THE AIRPORT ROUNDABOUT

Significant changes to the landscape can be seen at the Airport Roundabout as the new Gateway Motorway overpass is now in place and final touches are being made to prepare the roadway for traffic.

Finishing works, including the realignment of approaching roads and connection of the new overpass to the existing Gateway Motorway, will be completed before traffic is switched to the new alignment in April 2010. Once the new overpass is operational, the existing overpass will be removed.

The next milestone for the Airport Roundabout Upgrade is completion of the flyover bridge that will connect the East West Arterial directly with Airport Drive.

The 750 metre flyover will stand at a height of 21 metres, bypassing the airport roundabout intersection and Gateway Motorway overpass.

Works for the flyover commenced in late 2009 and seven of a total twelve bridge piers are now in various stages of construction along the East West Arterial Road.

Work for the flyover has also commenced on the eastern side of Airport Roundabout, requiring the realignment of eastbound traffic lanes on Airport Drive to the north in March 2010.

This will enable piling and bridge pier construction to commence in the middle of the road.

Production of large concrete bridge segments that will form the spans of the flyover bridge is reaching top gear at the project's Precast Factory in Pinkenba.

More than 50 of a total 436 bridge segments, weighing up to 52 tonnes each, have now been produced ready for installation commencing in March.

Traffic Update

During April 2010, Gateway Motorway traffic will be 'switched' onto the new Gateway Motorway overpass bridge.

The switch will be completed at night, minimising disruption to traffic during peak travel times. Extensive traffic control, including police and reduced speed limits, will be in place to direct motorists.

Email and SMS traffic alerts at www.brisconnections.com.au

The changes outlined above are subject to road authority approval.



CARVING OUT AIRPORT LINK

Extensive surface and underground works are in progress across Brisbane's north for construction of Airport Link — the first major motorway connecting Brisbane city with the northern suburbs and airport precinct.

A total of 12 roadheader machines are tunnelling between Bowen Hills and Kedron to excavate the Airport Link northbound and southbound tunnels, with more than 3.3 kilometres of tunnel excavated to date.

Major surface work is underway in Bowen Hills, Kedron and Toombul for 'cut and cover' construction of on and off-ramps that will connect these three precincts with the Airport Link tunnel network.

Motorists travelling to and from the city via Bowen Hills will notice a number of bridges taking shape — these will form the integrated network of road bridges connecting the Inner City Bypass, Clem 7 tunnel and local roads in Bowen Hills directly with the Airport Link tunnel. 'Cut and cover' construction is also progressing well for the Lutwyche Road southbound off-ramp from Airport Link, to be situated between Newmarket Road and Northey Street.

In the Kedron precinct — at the centre of the project alignment — excavation and construction is progressing for numerous on and off-ramps to Airport Link, including the northbound off-ramp at Lutwyche Road (adjacent to Perry Street) and the Stafford Road on-ramp. This month, excavation commenced at the Lutwyche Road worksite, between the Kedron Park Hotel and St Andrew's Church, for construction of the Airport Link westbound off-ramp that will take traffic from the airport and Toombul North to Gympie and Stafford Roads.

At the eastern connection to Airport Link in Toombul, a significant milestone is nearing as the project's first Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) is preparing to be launched.

Works to construct the TBM launch box are progressing well and the TBM's giant cutterhead, measuring 12.48 metres in diameter, is currently being assembled in Kalinga Park. The cutterhead together with other parts will be lowered into the ground where the machine will be fully assembled prior to the start of tunnelling in the coming months.

An innovative conveyor system, under construction in Toombul, will be used to transport approximately 1.1 million tonnes of spoil removed during TBM tunnelling.

The conveyor system will be covered to minimise dust, and will operate 24 hours a day to transport spoil from Kalinga Park directly to the project's spoil handling facility on Nudgee Road, drastically reducing the number of trucks on local roads.

Our next Community Update Newsletter will feature information about the Airport Link ventilation stations, now in the early stages of construction near Mann Park, Bowen Hills; Gympie Road, Kedron; and Sandgate Road, Toombul.



Assembly of TBM cutterhead

Tunnelling from Federation Street Site, Bowen Hills



Visit the 'Gallery' section of our project website to view the latest 3D animation of the Airport Link and Northern Busway tunnel alignment, and how Airport Link will connect with the Airport Roundabout Upgrade.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Throughout 2010, Thiess John Holland will be hosting regular community events to keep local residents, community groups and the wider public informed about progress on the Airport Link, Northern Busway (Windsor to Kedron) and Airport Roundabout Upgrade projects. Activities including public displays, information sessions and coffee mornings will be held in various locations along the project corridor so you can meet some of our project team members in person, and have a chat about areas of the project that interest you.

Representatives from Thiess John Holland will also be giving presentations about the projects to various community groups and associations – if you would like us to present to your community group please contact us on **1800 721 783** or email **contactus@tjh.com.au**.



SUPPORTING MEN'S HEALTH: Thiess John Holland kick-started 2010 in a positive way with an official cheque presentation to the National Prostate Cancer Foundation for a total of \$18,758 in funds raised during the 'Movember' 2009 campaign. Staff across all project sites participated in various fundraising activities throughout November, and registered to 'grow a Mo' to raise funds and awareness for men's health issues.



LENDING A HAND IN WOOLLOOWIN: Children and their families who visit The Community Place in Woolloowin were able to return from the Christmas break to a newly-refurbished play fort, thanks to the handy skills and materials donated by members of Thiess John Holland's Kedron South team. A small group of workers lent a hand to rebuild and paint the play area for this non-profit community centre, located on Kedron Park Road, where people of all ages go to meet, share and learn through services and educational opportunities available to support the local community.

TRAFFIC CHANGES...

WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

Thiess John Holland is continuing to stage its construction activities to keep approximately 333,000 vehicles moving along Brisbane's northern arterials each day as we build Australia's largest piece of road infrastructure.

Every time you drive through road works or see traffic changes for the project, it means we are one step closer to reducing your travel time between the city, the northern suburbs and the airport.

WHAT'S CHANGING IN 2010?

In April, the Gympie and Stafford Road intersection will be realigned approximately 50m south-east to allow for construction of the Northern Busway tunnel and Airport Link on-ramp. The left turn slip lane from Gympie Road to Stafford Road will be extended (refer to map opposite).

Bus stop 26 (outbound) — Broughton Road will reopen as an off-road bus stop in its original location, north of Broughton Road.

WHAT ABOUT LOCAL ROAD ACCESS?

We are aware that the number of local road closures and detours required to construct the projects can cause inconvenience. By staging the construction activities, these changes are in place for as short a time as possible.

In the Kedron precinct, **Brookfield Road** and **Homebush Road** will close in the coming months to motorists and pedestrians at Gympie Road, to progress excavation for the Northern Busway tunnel. During the closures, access to these roads and the Kedron Medical Centre will be via **Clarence Road**.

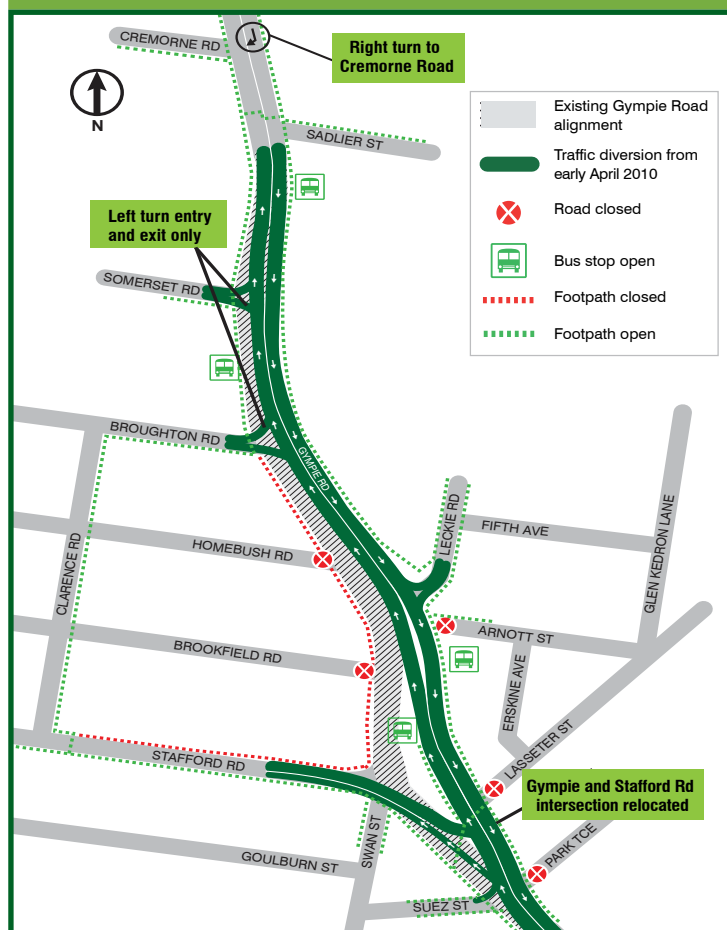
These closures will be coordinated with the opening of **Somerset Road** and **Broughton Road**. Mum's Bakehouse and Solver Decorator Centre located in this area, will remain open for business as usual during construction with signage assisting to direct customers.

WHAT IS A TRAFFIC SWITCH?

The realignment of a road is often referred to as a traffic 'switch'. By switching traffic, traffic flow is maintained and disruption during peak travel periods is minimised by moving traffic onto new or temporary lanes.

A traffic switch represents a significant project milestone and is an indication that construction is progressing as new work areas become available or existing work areas near completion.

Preparation for a traffic switch includes road widening work, pavement construction, line marking, barrier and sign installation. It may also include changes to traffic signals or intersections.



keep in touch

For more information contact us:

24 Hour Community Hotline
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