



Seeking **collaborative solutions**  
for extending Roe Highway

## Information Sheet

# Information Day – 24 October 2009 Summary Report

## Background

On Saturday 24 October, the South Metro Connect launched its Roe Highway Extension community engagement program with an Information Day at the Retro Chef Function Centre in Bibra Lake.

The key objectives of this event were to:

- Invite feedback from the community on what matters to them and how they would like to participate in the project.
- Provide information about the project including; scope; timeframes; and the process we will be undertaking.

The Information Day was advertised on the radio and in local print media and The West Australian for the two weeks prior to the event. In addition road signage and posters were located around the area and nearly 6000 letters of invitation were sent to community and stakeholder groups, and residents living within proximity to the project area.

It is estimated that between the opening hours of 10am-4pm, the Information Day was attended by between 600-700 community members.



*The first South Metro Connect Information Day attracted nearly 700 people over six hours*



## Display material

A series of nine large-format posters, detailing key information about the project, were displayed at the event. The posters were supported by two large-format aerial photographs of the project area, and a three-minute video that provided an overview of the information contained in the posters.

Posters detailed the following topics:

- Regional Growth
- The Project
- Project Benefits
- Project Timeframe
- Sustainable Decision Making
- Natural Environment
- Social Environment
- Areas of Influence
- Choose how you get Involved

These posters are now available on the South Metro Connect website  
[www.southmetroconnect.com.au](http://www.southmetroconnect.com.au)

Four laptop computers provided access to the recently launched South Metro Connect website and online community discussion forum. Members of the South Metro Connect team were available to demonstrate key features of these online resources.

Additional project team members located around the room were available to answer attendees' queries. The project team encouraged attendees to express their interests and concerns about the proposed project through a series of mechanisms, including a 'Graffiti Wall', a 'Priority Matrix' and feedback forms.



**Above left:** Attendees were invited to visually represent the issues most important to them on a Priority Matrix, by placing a red dot beneath identified topics. **Above right:** Members of the project team provided instruction about South Metro Connect's online resources available at [www.southmetroconnect.com.au](http://www.southmetroconnect.com.au)



*Left: A Graffiti Wall was established for people to publically share thoughts, concerns and values.*

## Feedback Analysis

South Metro Connect has analysed the 478 feedback forms that were completed during the event. This has enabled the team to build a more complete picture of the concerns and priorities of community members interested in the project and who attended the event.

### Who Attended

Nearly 80 per cent of those who completed a feedback form identified themselves as being either a City of Cockburn resident or landowner. Nearly 13 percent identified themselves as a City of Melville resident or landowner.

### Key Issues Raised

Just over 55 percent of respondents identified themselves as being opposed or strongly opposed to the project, while just over 20 percent identified themselves as being in support, or strongly in support of the project.

Commonly held concerns expressed about the project were the potential effects on the environment including:

- Wetlands
- Flora
- Fauna
- Noise
- Air quality
- Light pollution

Other notable concerns from attendees were:

- Visual amenity
- Traffic congestion
- Access
- Aboriginal heritage



- Disruption to local residents
- The decision making process
- The provision of alternative options to the MRS alignment

### Keeping Informed

Nearly 80 percent of respondents expressed an interest in being kept informed about the project, with the majority of respondents indicating they were eager to receive email updates, a newsletter or attend a community forum.

### Key Questions Raised

The feedback form asked whether people required any additional information. A number of respondents completed this section, and these queries are grouped in the following questions:

- Why extend Roe Highway?
- What is the location and alignment of the proposed Roe Highway Extension?
- Will Roe Highway Extension be a four lane highway?
- What is the timeline for the project?
- How will the project be funded?
- What government approvals are required?
- What is the Community Consultation process for the project?
- What are the traffic projections in the area?
- What will happen to property values?
- What road access and connectivity will be retained in the area?
- What past studies have been considered as part of this project?

The South Metro Connect Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) have been updated to include responses to these queries. These FAQs are available on the South Metro Connect website [www.southmetroconnect.com.au](http://www.southmetroconnect.com.au)

### Where to from here?

The Information Day was the first event in a program of ongoing dialogue that will continue for 9-12 months.

A series of community engagement forums are proposed for early 2010 that will investigate the selection criteria for design options, and design and alignment opportunities for the various sections of the highway extension. Details of these events will be included in the South Metro Connect project updates (posted online, advertised in local newspapers and emailed to those subscribed to receive project updates).

