MAIN ROADS WESTERN AUSTRALIA

NEWSLETTER
AUGUST 2018

High Street upgrade
STIRLING HIGHWAY TO CARRINGTON STREET

The proposed $118 million High Street Upgrade from Carrington Street to Stirling Highway project is jointly funded by the Australian ($73.62 million) and State ($44.38 million) governments and is part of the road and rail infrastructure package to improve Perth's transport network.

About the project

We are now planning for the upgrade of High Street between Stirling Highway and Carrington Street in Fremantle.

The current layout of High Street provides direct access to several local roads and driveways which results in stop-start conditions and increased congestion for local, regional and freight traffic.

There is also a high crash rate along the route which is a key safety issue that needs to be addressed.

The objective of the upgrade is to improve safety and the general flow of traffic for all road users travelling into and out of Fremantle.

We released a draft concept for the upgrade of High Street – between Stirling Highway and Carrington Street – in March 2018.

We then invited feedback from the adjacent residents, local community, road users and other key stakeholders on the draft concept plan.

We asked about your experiences travelling along High Street and what were your key concerns and priorities for the upgrade.

Following further consultation with the City of Fremantle we have now prepared an updated concept to progress to the next phase of the project.

Proposed underpass at Montreal Street – schematic illustration only

Community consultation

We invited feedback from the local community, businesses, road users and industry on the High Street Upgrade draft concept plan during a six week consultation program in April/May. The key themes from consultation were:

- How will we address connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists?
- Will the proposed roundabout efficiently manage traffic from all three directions?
- What changes will local residents have to make to access the upgraded road?
- How will historic issues with parking at Fremantle Netball Association be addressed?
- How will noise from heavy vehicle traffic be addressed?

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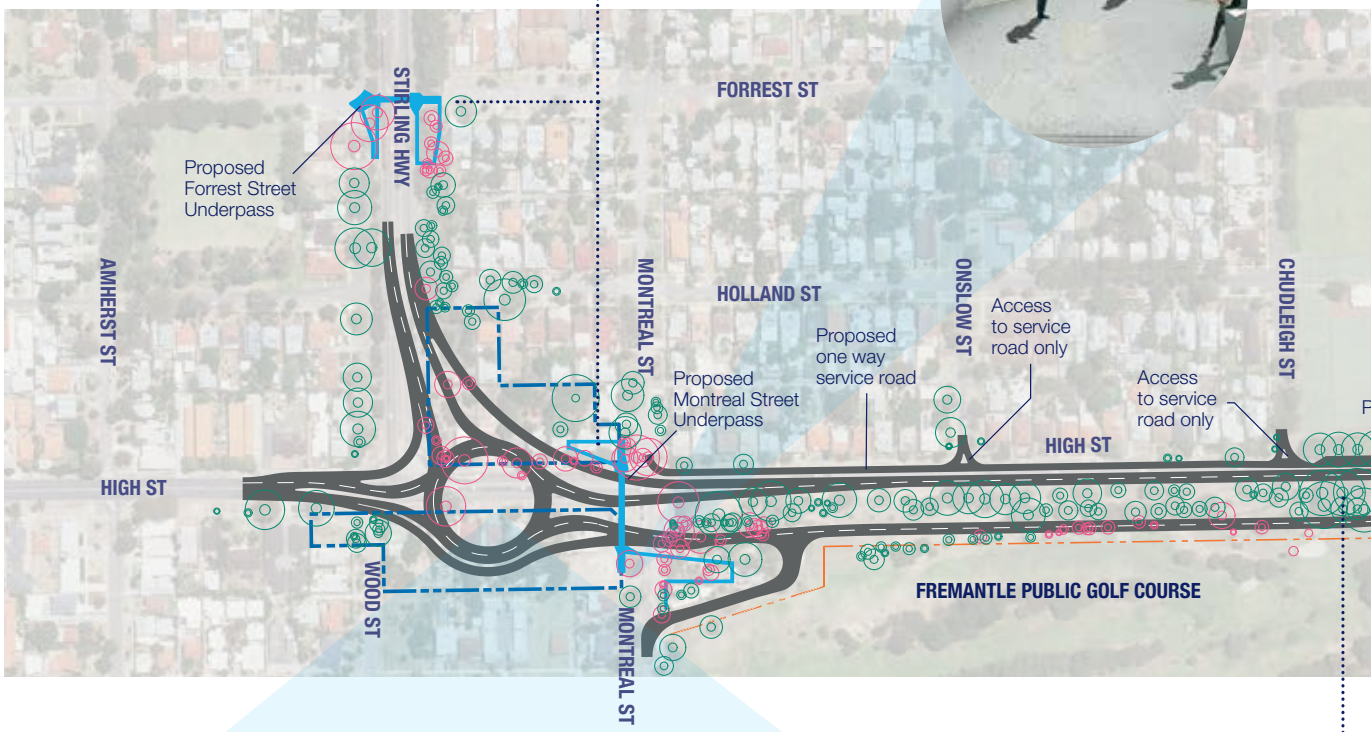
Proposed underpasses at Forrest Street and Montreal Street to improve pedestrian and cyclist connectivity.



New bypass and slip lanes to improve traffic flow in the roundabout.

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We've improved pedestrian and cyclist access

Two new underpasses have been incorporated into the design – improving connectivity for pedestrian and cyclists accessing local schools, parks, shopping and recreation facilities.

The underpasses are located at the junctions of:

- Forrest Street and Stirling Highway
- Montreal Street and High Street

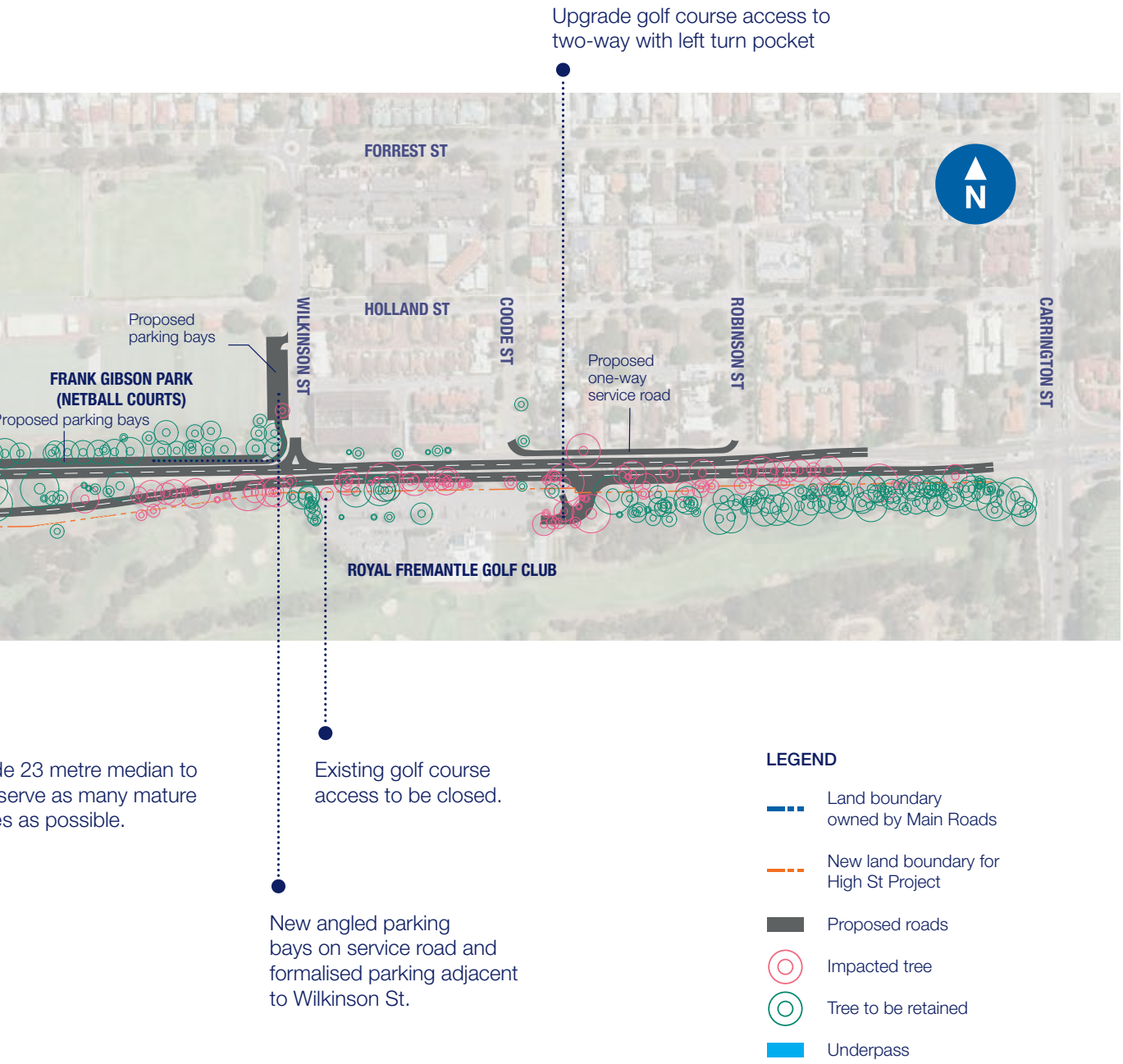
Detailed design of the underpasses is still to take place, however key features will include adequate vertical clearance to increase natural light and visibility, landscaping, stairs and ramps to promote a sense of openness, safety, visibility and access for all users.

Overpasses at these locations were considered, however the predicted height of approximately 8 metres to meet vertical clearance requirements, would result in ramps being double the length of an overpass, and privacy concerns for nearby properties.

We've made changes to the roundabout design

The roundabout has been modified to improve traffic flows. Benefits include:

- Realignment of Montreal Street to the east, increasing the distance from the roundabout to provide left in/left out traffic movements and space for the underpass ramps
- A new bypass lane for vehicles travelling west into Fremantle and a new slip lane for vehicles from Fremantle travelling north to Stirling Highway – providing more 'gaps' and improved traffic flow for vehicles using the roundabout.



Roundabouts provide better safety and efficiency outcomes – typically lower speeds within roundabouts result in less serious collisions as crashes are at low-impact angles. The approach to the roundabout is slightly curved which helps traffic slow down before entering the roundabout.

What about local road access?

A new one-way service road will be constructed between Montreal Street and Chudleigh Street on the northern side of High Street to provide safer access for properties that currently have direct driveway access on High Street.

This, along with the new continuous median on High Street to preserve as many trees as possible, will prevent right turn movements into and out of High Street

To assess the impact Main Roads undertook traffic surveys in May 2018 which showed very low numbers of vehicles undertaking these right turn movements. These findings were discussed with the City of Fremantle and it was agreed that there would be a minimal impact on local streets as a result of these changes.

Will the upgrade address netball parking?

There was a lot of support for the netball facility – but many people recognised parking was a long standing issue that the City needed to resolve.

In response, the project will assist by constructing new bays along the service road (in front of the fig trees which will be retained). We will also formalise and increase the parking on Wilkinson Street to ease the pressures.

Preserving trees and the environment

We've engaged an arborist to undertake an extensive tree survey and have refined the alignment of High Street to minimise tree removal as much as possible.

Did you know the median between Montreal Street and Chudleigh Street on High Street is close to 23 metres wide?

During the next phase of the project we will focus on how best to protect these trees during construction.

We are also working with the City of Fremantle to develop a landscaping and urban design strategy for the project, which will continue to be developed over the coming months.

What about FERN, the public golf course and Boo Park?

Creating the wider median on High Street to preserve the number of mature trees in the area has pushed the road boundary into the existing golf course and the land leased by the Fremantle Environment Resource Network.

The City of Fremantle has advised Main Roads that a new environmental community facility is planned elsewhere within the city. For further details please contact the City of Fremantle.

Main Roads engaged an independent golf course designer to develop options to modify the golf course layout, due to the impacts of the wider median on High Street. Based on feedback from the community, there were options that minimised tree removal and/or did not impact on Booyeembarra Park.

The City of Fremantle has agreed to assess these options over the coming months in consultation with the relevant stakeholders to determine a final configuration for the golf course.

Noise mitigation

We undertook noise monitoring in June 2018 and have made provision for noise mitigation in the project concept.

Noise modelling, in line with State Planning Policy 5.4, will be used to determine the noise mitigation measures that will be put into place.

The location, height and form of the noise mitigation measures will be determined as project development continues.

As we move into detailed design, the forms of the noise mitigation measures will be developed in consultation with local stakeholders.

What's next?

Development of the concept design will continue until late 2018 and we will continue engaging with key stakeholders as the design is further refined.

Main Roads will be seeking nominations for a construction reference group in the coming months to further engage the community as the project progresses.

Subject to the excision of the "A" Class reservation for the road reservation expressions of interest for the design and construct tender will be issued in late 2018 with contract award expected mid next year and early construction works anticipated to begin in the second half of 2019.

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

Want the latest project news delivered straight to your inbox? Register for updates at mainroads.wa.gov.au

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you would like to know more about the High Street Upgrade project, visit the project webpage at **mainroads.wa.gov.au** or call Main Roads on 138 138.

CONTACT US

If you have a question about the project you are welcome to contact us on:
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