



Date: 26 July 2018	Embargo: None
Pages: 1	Publication: All local media

GAWLER EAST LINK ROAD UPDATE

The Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) continues to put pressure on Council to compromise community outcomes relating to the Gawler East Link Road.

“Council has already acknowledged that the \$55M project will not be able to fund all the infrastructure that is required to deliver what our community needs,” said Mayor Redman. “That is why Council had to apply a Separate Rate over the Gawler East area, enabling Council to fund the missing infrastructure.”

A key element of the Link Road’s design that is now at risk is the offset roundabout where the Road connects to Potts Road. Council considered the design of this roundabout at its 24 May 2018 Meeting and requested that the offset roundabout be pursued by DPTI to facilitate a future connection of the Link Road to Tiver Road.

“DPTI has recently advised Council that the project budget will not be able to fund the base scope requirements of the Gawler East Link Road, a road that is already value engineered to be as cheap as possible,” Mayor Redman said. “This also means that the project cannot afford the offset roundabout that Council requested.”

Council has been informed that there will be a significant reduction in the extent of trunk public utilities that are provided for in the road reserve and potentially the footpath planned to be installed along one side of the Road may also cost too much to fit within the budget.

“Council settled on only having one side of the Road with a footpath, now we’re being told that the project might not be able to afford any footpaths. Enough is enough, our community’s interests in this Road must be protected,” said Mayor Redman.

“DPTI continue to state that the Gawler East Link Road is a \$55M project funded by the State Government,” Mayor Redman continued. “What DPTI omits from this statement is that Council is funding \$2.4M upfront and an additional \$8.2M of the Link Road’s cost will be returned to the State Government via contributions from Council and other developers.”

It is clear that additional funding is required to ensure that the base scope deliverables associated with the Gawler East Link Road occur and that the road becomes an enabler of further development of the Gawler East Development Zones as it was intended. Consequently the issue of funding is being escalated to the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Stephan Knoll, to consider.

“Let’s not forget that the reason this Road is being built results from a decision that the then Minister for Planning made regarding development of the Gawler East area. It is not unreasonable to expect that the final road being constructed is one that is fit-for-purpose and meets the needs of our community,” said Mayor Redman.

Connect with Gawler:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/townofgawler

Twitter: www.twitter.com/townofgawler

Instagram: @townofgawler

You Tube: www.youtube.com/townofgawler

ENDS

The media may wish to make contact with:
Mayor Karen Redman on 0421 839 359