

Western Brisbane Transport Network Investigation

July 2007

South east Queensland is booming

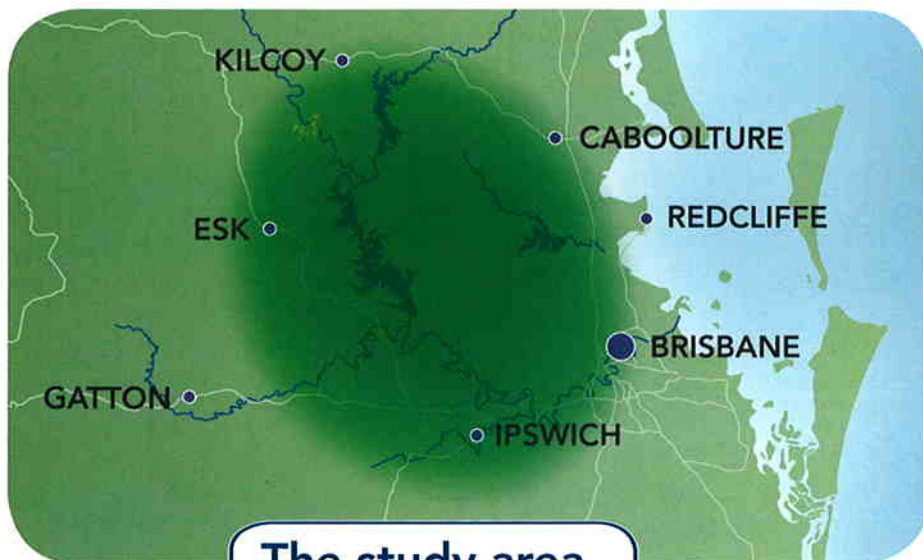
The south east Queensland region is Australia's fastest growing urban area, attracting an average of 55 000 new residents each year during the past two decades. This growth is forecast to continue with the south east Queensland population estimated to reach around four million people by 2026 – an increase of more than one million. In transport terms, that means around five million more trips each day as people travel to and from 575 000 additional dwellings and 425 000 new jobs.

We need to plan for this growth

The Queensland Government has developed the *South East Queensland Regional Plan* and the *South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program* to plan for this growth. They have both identified the Western Brisbane Transport Network Investigation as a major transport planning study in western Brisbane.



If we fail to plan for growth now, we will risk our enviable lifestyle.



The study area

What is the aim of the study?

The investigation aims to produce a transport strategy that will guide the development of the western Brisbane transport system for decades to come. It will investigate all transport options - public transport, roads, bikeways and pedestrian facilities and how these will be integrated with other transport initiatives of the *South East Queensland Regional Plan*.

As you can see from the above map, 'western Brisbane' is used to describe in general terms the area west of the Brisbane central business district to the Brisbane Valley, south to the Ipswich Motorway and Warrego Highway and north to Caboolture.

Why is it important?

The future of western Brisbane is important not only to those living there but to all south east Queensland residents. The Gateway Motorway is currently undergoing a \$1.9 billion upgrade, fully funded by the Queensland Government. This project will ease congestion on this vital road; however, the Gateway Motorway has a

finite capacity. Roads such as the Ipswich Motorway, Centenary Highway, Logan Motorway, Brisbane City Council's proposed Northern Link and the State Government's Airport Link all feed into the Gateway Motorway. We need to investigate other options to move people around the south east corner. To do nothing is not an option.

This study is important to all south east Queenslanders from the coast to Esk and from Caboolture to Beenleigh. The investigation is looking at a range of transport options to meet our growing region's needs including roads, public transport, bikeways and pedestrian facilities.

Why do I need to read this newsletter?

This newsletter provides an overview of the investigation, details how you can 'have your say' about the terms of reference and the investigation in general; answers some frequently asked questions and lists contact details for further information. As this investigation progresses, we welcome public comment to guide the development of a transport strategy for western Brisbane.



Queensland Government
Queensland Transport

Planning our future together



Getting involved in creating your future

Whether you live in south east Queensland's north, south, east or west, you will need to move easily around the region. Getting involved in this regional study makes sense.

The investigation will contribute to connecting communities by guiding the development of an integrated transport strategy for the western Brisbane area. Regional transport concerns need regional transport options.

If we do not plan for our future, then the transport network will become more congested and we will be unable to easily access the goods and services we need.

Smart cities are healthy cities with good access to public transport, roads, bikeways and pedestrian facilities.

With your input, the investigation will recommend more travel choices to protect our attractive lifestyle. The investigation is an opportunity to create our transport future together and we invite you to participate.

Throughout the project we will be engaging with community, business and industry groups and establishing opportunities for ongoing discussions.

The table shown below outlines how you can be involved in the various stages of the project.

Following public comment on the draft preferred strategy, the preferred strategy will be forwarded to the Queensland Government for consideration.

| Community consultation activities | Indicative timeframe |
|--|----------------------|
| Public comment on terms of reference | July 2007 |
| Information and feedback opportunities available through the 1800 hotline, email and website | Mid-late 2007 |
| Public comment on transport options | Late 2007-early 2008 |
| Public comment on draft preferred strategy | Early-mid 2008 |

Tell us what you think about the terms of reference

The terms of reference outline the following characteristics of the Western Brisbane Transport Network Investigation:

- It is strategic in guiding transport network development for the next 20 and more years
- It looks at travel demand and how that demand should be met
- It is integrated across all modes, investigating public transport, roads and regional walking and cycling infrastructure
- It looks at the role existing preserved transport corridors might play in the future network.

Queensland Transport is committed to the best transport outcomes for the people of the region.

We invite you to review the investigation's terms of reference. This document outlines what the study must deliver and how it will achieve its outcomes.

Comments on the terms of reference can be made online or in writing to the study team from 2 July-31 July 2007.

Queensland Transport will consider public comments when finalising the terms of reference. Common themes emerging from public comment will be posted on the web and will be available on request at the conclusion of the comment period.

To obtain a copy and have your say on the terms of reference:

Phone: 1800 636 896

Email: info@wbtni.net.au

Write: Western Brisbane Transport Network Investigation
Reply Paid 246, Spring Hill Q 4004

Visit: www.wbtoni.net.au
www.getinvolved.qld.gov.au
www.transport.qld.gov.au
www.mainroads.qld.gov.au



The project team

Queensland Transport is responsible for the investigation with additional support provided by other Queensland Government agencies including the Department of Main Roads and the Office of Urban Management. The ConnectWest Consortium, including consulting firms Maunsell and Sinclair Knight Merz, has formed a team of experts in town and land-use planning, transport modelling, environment, engineering, communication and community engagement to conduct the investigation.

The way forward

What does the investigation involve?

The Western Brisbane Transport Network Investigation is looking at a range of transport options to meet our growing region's needs including roads, public transport, bikeways and pedestrian facilities.

The project team is currently conducting the technical studies that form part of the investigation. These technical studies consider such issues as population and employment growth, trends in household size, freight traffic and environmental sustainability. The team will also conduct detailed transport modelling, as well as review existing transport networks and preserved transport corridors. These studies will help us to understand what our future transport needs are, and how we can best meet those needs.

The information generated in the technical studies will then be used to develop a number of transport options in the region. Community members will be able to provide feedback on these options. All options will be considered in this study.



Is this investigation about a western bypass?

This investigation will examine the need for a western bypass or not – but it is far more than that. It is an investigation that will examine a range of transport options to meet our growing region's needs including roads, public transport, bikeways and pedestrian facilities.

No route for a western bypass has been chosen and there is currently no recommendation to build one.

If the investigation determines in the future that a bypass is needed, then there will be a separate study on its social, environmental, engineering and economic feasibility.

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Have your say

Community involvement is an important part of the investigation and we invite your feedback.

Contact details

First name: _____ Last name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Comments: _____

Tick here if you would like a copy of the terms of reference

Tick here if you would like information about joining a Community Liaison Group

Tick here if you would like to receive regular updates about the investigation

Your privacy is important to us. Queensland Transport and the Queensland Department of Main Roads conducts the Western Brisbane Transport Network Investigation under the Transport Planning and Coordination Act, the Transport Infrastructure Act, and the Transport Operations (Public Transport) Act. Any information submitted may be used across all areas of transport planning to inform the Western Brisbane Transport Network Investigation. Authorised departmental officers and the study consultants will have access to this information but your personal details will not be disclosed to a third party without your consent unless required by law. No names, addresses or telephone numbers will be used for marketing purposes.

In addition, the staff and management of the ConnectWest Consortium have confidentiality protocols to ensure the above privacy statement is honoured to the word and spirit of the statement, thus ensuring that information provided by respondents remains confidential.