

Question on Notice

No. 1199

Asked on Tuesday 15 September 2009

MRS ATTWOOD ASKED THE MINISTER FOR MAIN ROADS (MR WALLACE)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister report on the progress of community consultations in relation to proposals for the upgrade of the Progress Road interchange?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Mount Ommaney for the question.

The Progress Road interchange, located at Wacol between the Centenary Highway and Logan Motorway interchange on the Ipswich Motorway, is an important access point to the Wacol industrial and regional areas. The current upgrade of the Ipswich Motorway between Wacol and Darra does not include an upgrade of the Progress Road interchange. However, in light of safety and operational issues, and the expected growth in freight and passenger traffic in the immediate area, the need for a future upgrade of the interchange has been recognised in discussions with federal government officers.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads tasked the SAFElink Alliance, which is delivering the Wacol to Darra upgrade, to undertake a planning study into options for the future upgrade of the Progress Road interchange. After a series of workshops, multi-criteria analysis and stakeholder discussions, this planning study selected three options to take forward.

These options were presented for feedback during a period of community consultation between 24 August and 20 September 2009. A newsletter with feedback form was distributed to approximately 8,338 businesses, organisations and residences around the Wacol industrial area. Wider public consultation also included staffed public displays at Mount Ommaney Shopping Centre; Wacol Station park'n'ride car park; Volvo Truck Australia (Wacol); and Park Village Shopping Centre (Middle Park) on 9, 10, 11 and 12 September respectively. An email inbox was also set up to collect feedback from the community.

Unstaffed displays with planning study information and feedback boxes were installed in local libraries and the offices of local elected representatives Mr Bernie Ripoll MP (Oxley); Ms Annastacia Palaszczuk MP (Inala); Ms Julie Attwood MP (Mount Ommaney); Mrs Jo-Ann Miller MP (Bundamba) and Brisbane City Councillor Milton Dick (Richlands).

Prior to wider community consultation, local elected representatives and potentially affected stakeholders were briefed individually.

Information and feedback collected from staffed and unstaffed displays and the planning study email inbox has been collated as part of the planning study and will be taken into consideration during the selection of a preferred option. A preferred option is expected to be available for public display in early 2010.