

Question on Notice

No. 1394

Asked on Tuesday 6 October 2009

MR GIBSON asked the Minister for Infrastructure and Planning (MR HINCHLIFFE)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Airport Link project—

- (1) What road/lane closures are planned for Lutwyche Road and surrounding roads after the completion of the Airport Link and Northern Busway Projects and which entity requested them?
- (2) To what extent was the Brisbane City Council consulted on these closures before the requests were made?

ANSWER:

I thank the Honourable Member for Gympie for his question.

Construction of the Airport Link and Northern Busway (Windsor to Kedron) projects is now well underway and upon completion they are expected to slash traffic on busy Lutwyche Road by up to 40 percent, freeing up this major arterial for the use of local drivers. Airport Link will add an additional six traffic lanes underneath the existing Lutwyche Road.

(1) As part of the construction program for the Airport Link and Northern Busway (Windsor to Kedron) projects, permanent closures of Windsor Avenue, Colton Avenue and Bradshaw Street East in Lutwyche and Fosbery Street, Windsor have been put in place and advice provided to the community on alternate routes. The closures of these roads are required for the Northern Busway (Windsor to Kedron) and were identified under the Concept Design and Impact Management Plan (CDIMP) for the Northern Busway (Windsor to Kedron) in 2007.

In coming weeks, Federation Street, Windsor will close to traffic and a new access to Lutwyche Road will be opened at Gallway Street. This closure is required for the construction and operation of Airport Link and was identified as part of the Request for Project Change process for Airport Link in May 2008.

On completion of the projects in 2012, Truro Street, Windsor will be closed to through traffic. Southbound traffic will be diverted to Lutwyche Road (west of Clark Park) and

Truro Street will be open only to buses and local traffic accessing Ada and Annie Streets. The closure to through traffic is required for the Northern Busway (Windsor to Kedron) and the change was identified in the CDIMP in 2007.

(2) Brisbane City Council (BCC) was the original proponent of the Airport Link project during the Detailed Feasibility Study and EIS phases which were undertaken jointly with the State Government. The planning for the Northern Busway (Windsor to Kedron) CDIMP, including the road closures noted above, was undertaken in parallel with the Airport Link EIS process in 2007. The process included full consultation with BCC.

An extensive public consultation period was also undertaken as part of the Airport Link and Northern Busway (Windsor to Kedron) Request for Project Change processes in 2008. Although no longer the project proponent, BCC was fully consulted on the proposed changes to both projects and their concerns were considered and addressed by the Coordinator-General in his approval of the Airport Link Changed Project and by the former Minister for Transport in his approval of the Northern Busway (Windsor to Kedron) Changed Project.

In addition, BCC were fully briefed on all proposed changes by the State's representative CNI and were represented at the time on the CNI Board. BCC officers were also involved in the evaluation of project bids, in particular, where they impacted on the BCC road network.

Notwithstanding the extensive consultation outlined above, the State is continuing to work with the relevant road authorities, including Brisbane City Council, on the changes to Lutwyche Road and surrounding roads.