

Question on Notice

No. 169

Asked on 9 March 2011

MR Murray Watt asked the Minister for Main Roads, Fisheries and Marine Infrastructure (MR WALLACE) -

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise what steps are being undertaken to reduce congestion at the intersection of a) Stafford Road and South Pine Road, Everton Park and b) Samford Road and Wardell Street, Enoggera?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Everton for the question.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads has commenced planning investigations to upgrade Stafford Road between Gympie Road and South Pine Road, as well as the Samford Road and Wardell Street intersection, to improve capacity and traffic flow.

With specific regard to the intersection of Stafford Road and South Pine Road, the study will investigate the operational capacity of the intersection and ways to improve the traffic flow and ensure safety and efficiency for all road users.

An initial cost estimate for upgrading the Stafford Road and South Pine Road intersection has been prepared and is in the range of \$60 to \$80 million. This initial estimate is based on early investigations into the current operation of the intersection to accommodate traffic volumes over the next ten years. During ongoing planning in 2011, the department will consolidate investigations and provide a revised cost estimate for upgrading the intersection of Stafford Road and South Pine Road.

With regard to the intersection of Samford Road and Wardell Street, the department's planning team has commenced planning investigations to identify improvements that could significantly reduce congestion at the intersection, as well as improving traffic flow on Samford Road, Wardell Street and in the surrounding area. Based on early planning, initial estimates indicate the full upgrade of this intersection is likely to cost in the range \$50 to \$90 million. The upgrade costing will be continually revised as planning progresses.

Planning to date has identified that early improvements to the intersection's operation can be gained from increasing the length of the northbound left-turn lane on Wardell Street into Samford Road. I am pleased to advise that \$1.2 million is being immediately invested to increase the left-turn lane from its current length of 30 metres to a length of 115 metres. This will help improve northbound traffic flow and reduce delays for left-turning vehicles from Wardell Street northbound into Samford Road.

Construction of the initial improvements are due to commence mid-2011 and should be completed by Christmas 2011, subject to the timing of the relocation of utility services by service authorities – properties will not be impacted by this project and the works will also form part of the full upgrade.

Community consultation on the full upgrade is also expected to commence by mid-2011 as the planning study progresses and will include consultation with the local community. Regular updates will be provided to all stakeholders. Feedback from consultation will help shape and inform the department's planning proposals. The department will also continue liaising directly with key community stakeholders, including local members Kate Jones MP, Geoff Wilson MP and yourself, as well as the Federal Department of Defence, Brisbane City Council and Translink.