



Hon. Andrew Fraser MP
Member for Mount Coot-tha



Deputy Premier, Treasurer
Minister for State Development
and Trade

AIRPORT LINK: SIX MONTHS OF CONSTRUCTION TO GO

One of the longest and largest infrastructure projects ever built in Australia is just six months away from completion.

Acting Premier Andrew Fraser confirmed today that the Airport Link project, including construction of the Northern Busway Windsor to Kedron, remained on schedule for completion by 30 June 2012.

“This extremely complex project is now more than 95 per cent complete with 25 million hours worked since construction began in late 2008,” Mr Fraser said.

“However with only six months to go, there is still plenty of work to be done.

“At Toombul the focus has now turned to the rehabilitation of Kalinga Park.

“The massive acoustic shed built for the Airport Link’s Tunnel Boring Machine assembly and tunnelling is almost dismantled and the final precast beams are now being lowered to complete the Airport Link tunnel roof between Kalinga Park West and Sandgate Road.

“Underground the mechanical and electrical fit out of the tunnels is well underway, while on the surface support facilities are being removed to make way for landscaping as reinstatement takes shape across the project’s alignment.

“What has been an engineering feat is now taking shape as an iconic feature of the city of Brisbane.”

Since November 2008 the project has:

- Spent \$3.75 billion building Airport Link, the Northern Busway (Windsor to Kedron) and the Airport Roundabout Upgrade
- Created 4,500 jobs at peak with more than 3,300 people still employed
- Bored and lined 15 kilometres of tunnel and ramps
- Constructed 25 bridges
- Poured more than 800,000m³ of concrete
- Upgraded hundreds of kilometres of water, power and sewer services
- Distributed more than 1 million notifications to local residents and businesses
- Provided more than 500 individual mitigation treatments for nearby residents

Mr Fraser thanked local residents for their patience saying that the new toll road would significantly ease congestion for commuters.

“Importantly Airport Link will reduce traffic on the local roads, as well as our main arterials, by providing drivers with the option of a quick and efficient trip to and from the CBD and the Airport.”

CEO of BrisConnections Dr Ray Wilson said Airport Link would revolutionise the way motorists travelled in Brisbane.

“Airport Link will bridge a missing link in Brisbane’s road network, saving people up to half an hour of travel every day,” Dr Wilson said.

“Airport Link will add six lanes of new roadway under Lutwyche Road and four extra lanes between Kedron and Toombul.

“When it opens next year, it will allow motorists to drive between Bowen Hills and Toombul in less than five minutes, avoiding 18 sets of traffic lights along the way.”

Thiess John Holland Project Director Gordon Ralph said thousands of men and women had worked incredibly hard over the past three years and 3,300 people were still working to complete the massive project by June 30.

Airport Link, which is being designed and constructed by Thiess John Holland, along with the Northern Busway (Windsor to Kedron) and the Airport Roundabout Upgrade, is part of a massive \$4.8 billion infrastructure investment on Brisbane's northside.

Thirteen kilometres of new and upgraded cycle and pathways are also being delivered as part of the project, and more than three hectares of new parkland will be provided to the community at completion.

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