

### KEY FACTS ABOUT AIRPORT LINK

DECEMBER 2007

- Airport Link is a mainly underground toll road planned between Brisbane's northern suburbs, the airport and the inner city.
- Airport Link will connect the North-South Bypass Tunnel, Inner City Bypass and local road network at Bowen Hills to the northern arterials of Gympie Road and Stafford Road at Kedron and Sandgate Road and the East-West Arterial in the city's north-east.
- Airport Link will allow significant travel time savings. For example motorists will be able to travel between Bowen Hills and Airport Drive in as little as six minutes in off-peak periods and between nine and 14 minutes in peak periods.
- It will cater for 95,000 motorists a day in 2012 rising to 120,000 by 2026.
- Airport Link will be approximately 6.7km long, with approximately 5.7km of tunnels. It will comprise two tunnels (one northbound and one southbound) at least 20m apart and up to 50m underground between Windsor and Kedron, and up to 35m underground between Kedron and Clayfield.
- There will be three lanes each way between Bowen Hills and Kedron and two lanes each way between Kedron and Toombul/Clayfield.
- It will allow motorists to bypass 16 sets of traffic lights between Bowen Hills and Kedron and 14 sets of traffic lights between Bowen Hills and Toombul.

### Investigating Airport Link

- The State Government and Brisbane City Council began investigating Airport Link in detail in July 2005.
- In October 2005 a preferred corridor was identified and the Coordinator-General declared Airport Link a 'significant project' under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*.
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) investigations for Airport Link began in November 2005. Completed in October 2006, the EIS was put on public display for a period of eight weeks.
- The EIS drew more than 300 written submissions, airing a range of concerns mainly relating to construction impacts, air quality and traffic.

City North Infrastructure Pty Ltd ACN 123 249 874  
Level 30, Comalco Place, 12 Creek Street, Brisbane QLD 4000  
GPO Box 2563, Brisbane QLD 4001  
Tel 07 3237 7400 Fax 07 3237 7499



Dedicated to a better Brisbane



Queensland  
Government

- The project team prepared a Supplementary Report in response to the EIS submissions for the Coordinator-General's consideration during his evaluation of the EIS and the EIS submissions.
- In late May 2007, after completing his evaluation the Coordinator-General prepared an evaluation report which made recommendations and imposed conditions that must be implemented to manage environmental impacts.
- The Coordinator-General also recommended that innovative solutions be sought to manage potential construction impacts, particularly on local schools and neighbourhoods.

### **Delivering Airport Link**

- The capital cost of Airport Link is expected to be about \$2.5 billion (in 2007 dollars). This does not include the cost of financing, which will be borne by the private sector.
- The State Government plans to deliver Airport Link via a Public-Private Partnership, with the successful contractor to finance, design, construct, commission, operate and maintain Airport Link for a period of 45 years.
- The contractor responsible for delivering Airport Link will also be asked to design and construct the Windsor to Kedron section of the Northern Busway, which the State Government will fund, operate and maintain.
- Expressions of Interest in the projects were called in February 2007. Four groups expressed interest and in June 2007, the following groups were short-listed to bid for the projects:
  - **BrisConnections** (Macquarie Capital Group, Thiess and John Holland)
  - **NorthConnect Motorway** (Baulderstone Hornibrook, Abigroup Limited, Bilfinger Berger Civil and Babcock & Brown)
  - **Northern Motorway** (Leighton Contractors and ABN AMRO Australia).
- Bids closed on 14 December 2007 and the preferred bidder is expected to be announced in mid-2008 after an extensive evaluation process.
- If the successful contractor's design includes significant changes to the Airport Link project reference design, the Coordinator-General may request further public consultation as part of a Change Process.
- The Change Process and financial close are expected to be completed in September 2008.
- Construction is expected to begin in late 2008 and be completed in 2012.