



Hon Paul Lucas MP



Queensland
Government

June 13, 2006

Minister for
Transport and Main Roads

Refined Plans Released for Airport Link and Northern Busway

Refined designs for Airport Link and the Northern Busway – linked projects that will deliver up to 40% cuts in traffic congestion on major northside roads – are being released for public consultation this week.

Minister for Transport and Main Roads Minister Paul Lucas, and Brisbane Lord Mayor Campbell Newman, said the two projects were among the biggest infrastructure investments in Queensland's history.

The new designs follow extensive consultation with the community and interest groups in the northern suburbs, along with scientific and environmental analysis.

They will be further refined with ongoing community consultation to form the basis of an Environmental Impact Statement for Airport Link and a Concept Design and Impact Management Plan for Northern Busway, both expected late this year.

Mr Lucas and Cr Newman said the significant points of the new plans were:

- **NORTHERN BUSWAY:** Refinement of the concept design, along with connections to the existing Inner Northern Busway at Herston; and preferred locations for the busway stations.
- **AIRPORT LINK:** A preliminary concept design for the Bowen Hills connection, improvements to the Kedron and Toombul connections; and optional sites for the three ventilation outlets.

The State Government has provided \$600 million under *SEQIPP* for the Northern Busway. The State Government and Brisbane City Council are jointly funding a \$21 million detailed feasibility study into Airport Link.

Letters are being sent to the owners of 221 properties, including 178 residential properties, which may be partially or fully affected at surface level by the refined concept designs. This includes affected property owners spoken with during previous consultation. All directly affected landowners would be offered individual discussions about their situations.

Mr Lucas said the two projects would deliver major time savings for people travelling across the city, whether by car or on Brisbane's busway system.

15th Floor Capital Hill Building
85 George Street Brisbane
GPO Box 2644 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3237 1949
Facsimile +61 7 3224 4242
Email transport@ministerial.ald.qov.au

Media Release

Media Release

Media Release

“Modelling shows these two projects, when completed, will cut traffic congestion on Lutwyche Road and nearby streets by between 35 and 40% – that is a massive improvement,” Mr Lucas said.

“The Northern Busway will be a great public transport outcome for South East Queensland.”

Cr Newman said Airport Link showed good planning could reduce the impacts of much-needed infrastructure on the community.

“Airport Link will take vehicles off northside arterial roads and suburban streets with its significant time savings, while the busway will provide an attractive public transport alternative, with each full bus taking up to 40 cars off our streets.”

“It makes good sense to get through-traffic off the surface roads, and the Environmental Impact Statement will provide us with all the information we need to thoroughly understand the benefits and impacts of the project,” he said.

Cr Newman encouraged people to get involved and have their say on the refined concept design by attending an information session where technical experts and project team members will be on hand to listen to community feedback.

“We’ll continue to talk with the community as the project develops,” he said.

Mr Lucas said community feedback, busway engineering standards and detailed technical and environmental studies were considered in developing the refined design.

“Latest developments for the Northern Busway include the selection of preferred busway station sites, including in Lutwyche, and possible ways to deliver the busway in stages,” Mr Lucas said.

For further information:

AIRPORT LINK: A schedule of community information sessions is available on the Airport Link project website (www.brisbaneairportlink.qld.gov.au), the technical website (www.airportlinkeis.com) or by phoning 1800 99 00 38 (freecall).

NORTHERN BUSWAY: www.translink.com.au/northernbusway, Phone: 1800 289 210 (freecall), Email: northernbusway@transport.qld.gov.au, Post: Northern Busway Study Team, Reply Paid 246, Spring Hill Qld 4004 (no stamp required)

Media contact:

Minister's Office: Robert Hoge – 3237 1942

Lord Mayor's Office: Francis Quinlivan – 3403 4832