



Anna Bligh MP
Member for South Brisbane



Deputy Premier,
Treasurer and
Minister for Infrastructure

Media statement

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\$3.5m ASSISTANCE PACKAGE FOR KEDRON HIGH

A \$3.5million assistance package will be on offer for Kedron State High School to cope with expected loss of playing fields from the Airport Link and Northern Busway projects, Deputy Premier and Infrastructure Minister Anna Bligh announced today.

Ms Bligh said the State Government had agreed to the package for the expected temporary loss of Kedron High's soccer field and to cover costs of noise mitigation such as double-glazing and air-conditioning.

The Deputy Premier also announced she had asked Education Queensland to immediately investigate creating a new drop-off/pick-up zone outside Woolloowin State School as part of the mitigation measures for that school.

"The need to safeguard the learning and working environment of these schools both during and after construction of the projects is of prime importance to me," she said.

"I have given my personal assurance that the State Government will not allow the safety of students and staff to be compromised during construction of these vital projects.

"If the projects proceed as planned there will be direct impacts on Kedron High and these funds will allow the school to continue offering the best possible learning environment.

Member for Stafford Stirling Hinchliffe welcomed the Kedron High package and the Government's commitment to monitor the situation there and at Woolloowin State School.

"This is a great outcome that will go a long way towards alleviating any potential disruptions to the schools during construction," he said.

"We will be in close contact with Woolloowin State School during the project so we can respond to any other issues that may arise," Ms Bligh said.

"Already, at the request of the school, the noise monitoring program will be broadened before construction starts so we have a better base for comparison down the track."

City North Infrastructure – the State Government company delivering the project will soon begin noise monitoring to verify modelling carried out for the Airport Link Environmental Impact Statement.

Ms Bligh said the \$3.5 million was not intended to replace other mitigation measures CNI was legally obliged to implement to minimise impacts on the schools and the wider community, such as dust suppression systems, noise barriers and traffic management plans.

Mitigation measures at Kedron High would not be finalised until late next year after a contract was awarded and the successful tenderer had completed detailed designs and Environmental Management Plans for each project.

“I understand that the delay in being able to provide exact details of the mitigation measures is unsettling for teachers, parents and students,” Ms Bligh said.

“But this commitment will provide more security for the school and is evidence of the State Government’s commitment to the health and well-being of students and staff.”

Airport Link and the Northern Busway are two of the largest infrastructure projects planned in the first phase of the State Government’s *South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program*.

Airport Link is a mainly underground toll road that 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.

The Northern Busway is a separate dedicated road for buses that will connect the Inner Northern Busway at Herston to Bracken Ridge via Windsor, Lutwyche, Kedron, Chermside and Aspley. The Windsor to Kedron section of the busway will be built at the same time as Airport Link.

More information: Deputy Premier’s Office, 3224 5982: