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Busway design proposes innovative access

The Government has encouraged the public to get out and see the new Northern Busway (Windsor to Kedron) designs, confident the innovations offered by winning bidder BrisConnections will enhance access to the busway for many north side residents.

With changes to station locations, alignment and tunnelling methods the BrisConnections proposal has responded whole-heartedly to the State Government's call for innovation in design.

"When the government went out to industry and requested proposals to build the Northern Busway (Windsor to Kedron) and Airport Link, we encouraged innovation in all aspects of delivery," Premier Anna Bligh said.

"The BrisConnections' proposal has certainly answered our call.

"Their design has offered an innovative solution that will see the busway particularly around Lutwyche busway station enhance the accessibility of public transport for a great number of users."

The Northern Busway between Herston and Kedron will be delivered in two parts with construction already underway on the first section between the Royal Children's Hospital (RCH) to Windsor.

The Windsor to Kedron section is being delivered with Airport Link and is expected to be completed by 2012. It will run from Butterfield St in Windsor to Cremorne Rd at Kedron.

"This is a win for bus passengers and motorists. Not only will this section cut average bus travel times in half between Kedron and Royal Brisbane Hospital.

"But every bus we put on the busway also takes up to 40 cars off the road and that means reduced congestion for everyone."

The Northern Busway will ultimately connect the Inner Northern Busway at Herston to Bracken Ridge via Windsor, Lutwyche, Kedron, Chermside and Aspley.

The BrisConnections proposal sees the Lutwyche busway station located underground diagonally beneath Lutwyche Road.

“The station location, while different to that proposed during the planning phase, addresses the strong community desire for accessibility to both the busway and surrounding areas.

“The underground station is integrated with the activities at road level via plazas providing access to Kedron Brook and the Lutwyche Centro Shopping Centre” Ms Bligh said.

The proposal also includes a pedestrian crossing located above the station but below Lutwyche Road. The crossing will be highly visible from the station platforms and plaza areas.

“Pedestrians and cyclists will be able to cross Lutwyche Road at the Bradshaw Street intersection without having to contend with high traffic volumes or traffic lights.”

“As a whole the solution in this area offers the Lutwyche precinct excellent, free-flowing connectivity,” said Ms Bligh.

Along with changes to the Lutwyche busway station, the BrisConnections bid also includes changes to the busway connections around Federation Street and the busway tunnel portal at Kedron.

Ms Bligh acknowledged that some of the changes proposed were quite different to designs developed during planning and that it was important that the community review the new designs.

“Since its inception the local community has been heavily involved in the Northern Busway project and I would like to see this continue,” Ms Bligh said.

“It is very important that they become familiar with the works proposed for their area.

“I strongly encourage the public to have a look at the new designs and get in touch with the project team if they have questions.”

The new designs and a report on the changes to the concept design are available:

- online at www.airportlink.qld.gov.au
- in hard copy at the visitor information centre (109 Gympie Road, Kedron)
- by contacting the project team on 1800 99 00 38 or email info@cni.qld.gov.au

The change report will be available for public comment from Saturday, 31 May to Friday, 27 June 2008.

Premiers 07 32244500