

**Minister for Infrastructure and Planning  
The Honourable Stirling Hinchliffe**

**Monday, June 22, 2009**

**Community urged to have their say on Airport Link change proposal**

Vacant land at Wooloowin could become the new home for works associated with Queensland's most exciting infrastructure project Airport Link.

Construction partners BrisConnections and Thiess John Holland are proposing an additional worksite on vacant land at Rose Street, which would allow them to sink a 42 metre deep shaft.

Minister for Infrastructure and Planning, Stirling Hinchliffe, today urged people living near the proposed additional worksite to have their say about the proposal.

"The Coordinator-General will seek public comment on the proposed changes to the project's construction plan," the Minister said.

"This proposed new site provides optimal ground conditions for works to continue.

"Currently it is unused land owned by the Department of Transport and Main Roads, who set it aside many years ago for future road upgrade.

"If the proposal is accepted, the shaft to be dug on the site would allow two additional roadheader tunneling machines to be lowered into position to get to work early on essential tunnels and caverns.

"The new site would create 220 additional jobs for Queenslanders.

"It will also ensure the project remains on time and on budget," Mr Hinchliffe said.

"Should the Coordinator-General approve the proposal the Queensland Government will ensure that the vacant site is returned to the Wooloowin community.

"The massive Airport Link project negates the need for another major road through this area, allowing us to give the land back to the community.

Following representations by Minister Hinchliffe, Main Roads Minister Craig Wallace said he had agreed that the land should be given back to the community.

"This 2800 square metre block of land on Kent Road will be a great community asset for the people of Wooloowin and Brisbane when the Airport Link project is completed," Mr Wallace said.

Mr Hinchliffe said the community may decide to create a park or a recreational facility on the site at the end of the project.

"BrisConnections says the work - which will occur inside a purpose built acoustic shed similar to the one in use at NSBT's Shafton Avenue site - is essential due to unfavourable ground conditions in the Kedron Brook area.

"If the Coordinator General approves the proposal, the new worksite will allow the project to be completed on time and on budget.

"This means less disruption for residents living close to major worksites in Kedron, Lutwyche, Kalinga Park and Toombul.

"The Wooloowin worksite could – of course - have impacts on the local community and extensive mitigation strategies including 5 m noise walls and are being proposed," the Minister said.

A formal Request for Project Change has been submitted to the Coordinator-General and is on display at the Airport Link Visitor Information Centre at Lutwyche, local libraries and on the BrisConnections website. A 24-day period for public comment will open Wednesday.

"I urge all local residents, businesses and community groups with concerns to make a submission prior to the deadline," Minister Hinchliffe said.

"All submissions will be considered by the Coordinator-General in his deliberations," Mr Hinchliffe said.

The Report can be viewed online at [www.dip.qld.gov.au/projects](http://www.dip.qld.gov.au/projects) and [www.citynorthinfrastructure.com.au](http://www.citynorthinfrastructure.com.au)

Copies of the report will be available from Wednesday at:

Brisbane Square Library

Nundah Library

Hamilton Library

Airport Link Visitor Information Centre at Lutwyche Centro shopping centre, Lutwyche Road, Lutwyche.

Media Contact: 3224 8750