

# Warrego Highway (Ipswich–Toowoomba) and Haigslea-Amberley Road interchange, planning

## Community update

May 2022

In mid-2021, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) undertook community consultation, as part of the Preliminary Evaluation phase of planning for the proposed upgrade of the Warrego Highway and Haigslea-Amberley Road interchange. This allowed TMR to better understand the transport priorities of the area and current concerns with the interchange, including safety and congestion issues experienced by all road users.

The consultation took place over a four-week period, between May and June 2021, with around 300 individuals, businesses and organisations providing feedback on the current interchange and what an upgrade should involve. Feedback was received through an online survey, interactive online map, community information sessions, hardcopy feedback forms, email and phone calls. The online survey and interactive online map represented 70 per cent of the feedback received.

Feedback received from the community and stakeholders supported the need for an interchange upgrade.

## Background

In early 2020, a planning study investigated options to address the safety issues at the Haigslea-Amberley Road intersection with the Warrego Highway. This initial planning did not identify any minor upgrade solutions that could adequately address the safety issues without major interventions.

TMR is now identifying viable options to address these safety issues.

## Community consultation outcomes – what you told us

Around 300 individuals, businesses and organisations took part in the community consultation.

Predominant themes regarding the current interchange include:

- The interchange is deemed to be unsafe causing many people to avoid it completely.
- The current alignment of the interchange impacts visibility and the ability to easily enter/exit.
- The current speed limit at the interchange (100km/h) is considered too high and should be reduced to match the 80km/h speed limit east of the intersection at Blacksoil – either as an interim measure or permanently.
- The design of the on-ramp towards Toowoomba and the off-ramp towards Haigslea-Amberley Road causes visibility issues. This is compounded by the vegetation at the interchange impeding the driver's ability to anticipate traffic accurately.
- Heavy vehicles are using the interchange to access the Cunningham Highway via Haigslea-Amberley Road which is unsafe due to the community facilities, including schools, along this route.
- The size of the median is inadequate, and priority is unclear.



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## What happens next...

The *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 2020–21 to 2023–24* has dedicated \$799,000 to the Warrego Highway (Ipswich – Toowoomba) and Haigslea-Amberley Road interchange planning. Following completion of the Preliminary Evaluation, funding will be required for further planning, design or construction.

## Contact us

TMR is committed to working closely with the community throughout the project and the project team thanks everyone who took part in the consultation process.

For more information about this project, or to receive project updates, visit [tmr.qld.gov.au](http://tmr.qld.gov.au) and search 'Warrego Highway and Haigslea-Amberley Road interchange' or contact the project team via:

Phone: **07 3066 4338** (during business hours)

Email: [metropolitanregion@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:metropolitanregion@tmr.qld.gov.au)

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