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## **Media Release**



## Geoff Brock MP Minister for Regional Roads

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## Project design for Kimba junction upgrades and highway realignment

Works to realign and upgrade the Eyre Highway at Kimba – including construction of a new heavy vehicle rest area within the Eyre Peninsula township – have moved a step closer, with the project design now released to the community.

The upgrades will improve road safety and increase freight productivity, while also supporting compliance with the National Heavy Vehicle Fatigue Laws, by providing uninterrupted, continuous through-movements on the Highway and a formal rest area for heavy vehicles drivers travelling through Kimba.

Under the newly released project design, the Eyre Highway will be realigned through Kimba to remove the dog-leg staggered junctions with South Terrace and Cowell-Kimba Road. The highway's junctions with Cowell-Kimba Road, Nugent Road, Martin Terrace and Whyte Avenue will all be upgraded, while the new heavy vehicle rest area will be constructed adjacent the eastbound carriageway just south of South Terrace.

Other works will include the construction of new pedestrian refuge, removal of the existing level crossing, road pavement construction, asphalt surfacing and new and upgraded LED road lighting.

Early works, including service relocations and soil testing, have commenced, with major construction expected to commence in mid-2023 and be completed in 2024.

For more information about the project, or to view the project design or register to receive project updates, please visit <u>www.dit.sa.gov.au/kimba</u>

The project is jointly funded by the Australian and South Australian governments (80:20) as part of their \$297 million commitment across South Australia under the Roads of Strategic Importance initiative.

## **Quotes attributable to Geoff Brock**

The Eyre Highway is the primary road link between South Australia and Western Australia, supporting a high proportion of interstate and intrastate freight heavy vehicles.

At Kimba, Eyre Highway traffic currently needs to travel through closely staggered intersections at South Terrace and Cowell-Kimba Road, and insufficient road widths make these turning movements difficult and unsafe for heavy vehicles.

Additionally, there is currently no formal rest area for heavy vehicles travelling eastbound on the Highway through Kimba.

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The realignment of the highway in Kimba to remove these staggered junctions, constructing a new eastbound heavy vehicle rest area and undertaking a number of other road safety upgrades along this section of the highway will greatly improve safety and efficiency for all roads users, including freight and local residents.