

# northern expressway

FACT SHEET, FEBRUARY 2010

## Heaslip Bridge opens and keeps traffic moving

Bridge and underpass construction on the Northern Expressway – South Australia’s largest road project for more than half a century – has helped put the project ahead of schedule.

The Heaslip Road bridge which opened to traffic on February 18, forms part of a major transport route passing above the expressway construction corridor.

It is the fifth of many major bridges or underpasses to be constructed along the 23 kilometre project. The Heaslip Road interchange at Womma Road is a key regional hub for the agricultural and industrial transport industry.

This full interchange will have on and off ramps catering for north and south bound traffic. The size of the roundabout at the intersection of Womma and Heaslip Roads means it can be easily navigated by large commercial vehicles. It will improve road safety at this busy location.

Following extensive consultation with the local community and road user groups, the project team committed to early construction of the busiest roadway bridges to reduce local traffic disruption during construction. Part of the \$451 million total Australian Government funding for the Northern Expressway was brought forward to allow the early start of these works.

This strategy has proven to be a benefit to commuters and agricultural transporters in this important primary production region of the Northern Adelaide Plains. It has reduced construction time frames and providing safer conditions for workers and local commuters.

### Open to traffic

- > Angle Vale Road bridge
- > Curtis Road bridge
- > Heaslip Road bridge
- > Penfield Road bridge
- > Two Wells Road underpass

### Under construction

- > Taylors Road railway bridge
- > Gawler River crossing bridges
- > Gawler Bypass underpass
- > Gawler River diversion channel bridges
- > Gawler Rail bridge
- > Port Wakefield Road interchange
- > Smith Creek Culvert



Above: A view of intensive construction works at the Heaslip Road Bridge and Womma Road interchange where it connects with the Northern Expressway.

## Going further on the Expressway with Gawler Bypass upgrade

With the Northern Expressway ahead of schedule and within budget, works can commence on the transition of the Northern Expressway to the Gawler Bypass.

Progress and cost effective construction of the project mean that an expressway-standard road will join the Northern Expressway to the Gawler Interchange with the Sturt Highway Upgrade at Willaston.

The transition works, starting this month, will

- > upgrade safety standards
- > increase the road capacity
- > increase speeds to expressway standard
- > upgrade several local roads.

The Gawler bypass will have a 110 kilometre per hour speed limit, and local access lanes will be upgraded at Weyland Road and Mallala Road.

The upgrading will be extensive with a full reconstruction of the existing road, construction of deceleration lanes, installation of separating safety barriers and installation of lighting to improve intersection safety standards.

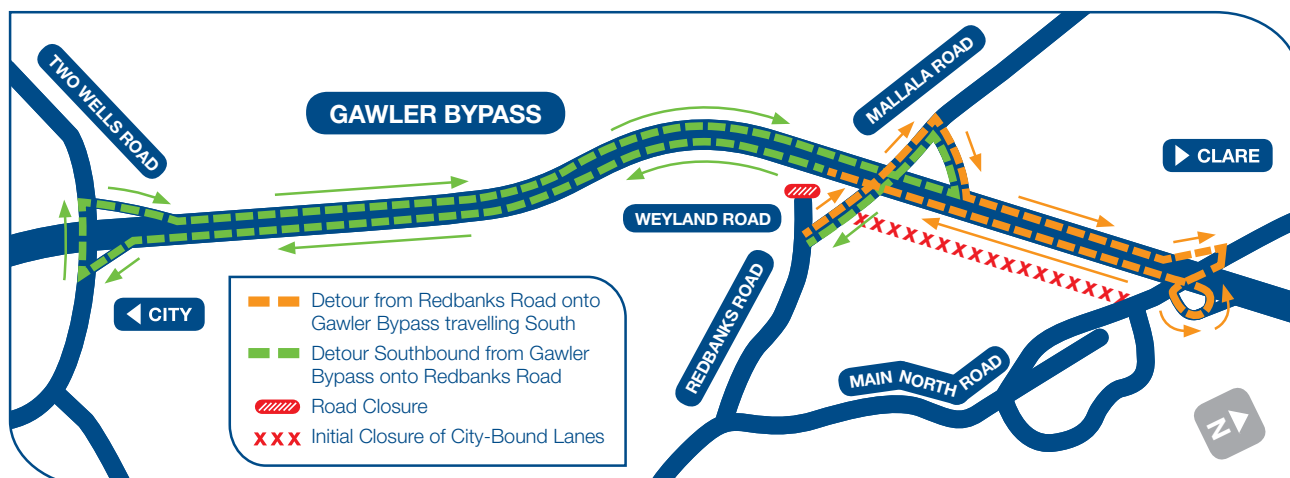
During the works, both Weyland Road, Willaston and Mallala Road, Gawler Belt will be closed for a time, but not simultaneously. Detours will occur in two stages and road users are being advised of traffic diversions. There will be city-bound lane closures firstly between Weyland Road and Main North Road.

The Northern Expressway will now be finished in September, well ahead of the original December 2010 target.

## Bridge open for Easter



Before Easter, road users will be crossing the new Port Wakefield Road Bridge, with vehicle passengers having the benefit of a view to St Kilda wetlands, Torrens Island and Gulf waters.



All enquiries: 1300 658 621 Visit: [www.northernexpressway.sa.gov.au](http://www.northernexpressway.sa.gov.au) Email: [northernexpressway@saugov.sa.gov.au](mailto:northernexpressway@saugov.sa.gov.au)

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Nation Building Program



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## Biggest interchange grows from the fields over a year



**Top Left:** November 2008 – Looking like a giant sandpit... excavators, graders and rollers begin to form the basic outline of the expressway corridor and future bridge earthworks beside Heaslip Road.

**Lower Left:** February 2009 – The expressway corridor has been formed each side of Heaslip Road as the bridge takes form with concrete poured into bridge abutments prior to pre-cast concrete trusses being placed. Womma Road is to the left of the photo which was taken looking westwards.

**Above:** May 2009 – From high above Heaslip Road looking west, the expressway earthworks are taking shape on both sides of the road near the intersection of Womma Road. Bridge beams have been lowered into place between the high earth mounds that will be the new alignment for Heaslip Road traffic. The RAAF Base Edinburgh is in the top left of the photo and the Port River and Torrens Island Conservation Park are at top right.

**Immediate Left:** December 2009 – Looking east towards Elizabeth West, Davoren Park and Craigmore in the foothills. After 13 months the bridge is fully built prior to landscaping.



## Website has latest information

The Northern Expressway website has an interactive map to advise all road users of the latest traffic changes.

If you have any questions you can contact the Northern Expressway Information Line on 1300 658 621.

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