

Public display

Design plans will be available for viewing at:

Venue:

Perth Community Centre
173 Fairlough Street
Perth

Date:

Saturday, 14th May 2016

Time:

12:00 noon – 3:00 pm

Department of State Growth staff will be available to answer questions.

Contact Information

Further details of the proposed works can be found on the project webpage at:

www.midlandhighway.tas.gov.au

You can also use the contacts below to find out more about the project:

Phone: 1800 753 878

Email: info@stategrowth.tas.gov.au



Tasmanian
Government

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Midland Highway
Safety Upgrades –

Symmons Plains
to Perth



Australian Government

BUILDING OUR FUTURE



Tasmanian
Government

Location of Safety Upgrades

The Symmons Plains to Perth project is located on the Midland Highway from the end of a recently upgraded 2+1 lane length of highway at Symmons Plains to the Perth Bridge over the South Esk River. A total length of 7.23 km.

What's happening?

The Australian and Tasmanian Governments have committed to invest \$500 million to improve safety on the Midland Highway over the next 10 years.

The objective of this investment is to lift the safety standard of this strategic highway to a minimum three star AusRAP* safety rating over its entire length.

The crash pattern along the Midland Highway is relatively dispersed, with crashes occurring along its entire length, including locations of multiple crashes. When assessed using the AusRAP safety rating methodology, 86% of the Midland Highway rates at one or two stars, on a five star scale.

The highway's absence of adequate safety features in many areas has resulted in this low rating. A lack of safety features is often a contributing factor in the type and severity of road crashes along the highway. Historically head-on collisions have accounted for approximately 14% of casualty crashes, which account for 60% of fatalities on the highway.

Funding

The project is funded jointly by the Australian and Tasmanian Governments.

Features and safety benefits

Safety will be improved by the provision of:

- a 2 metre central median
- a Flexible Safety Barrier down the centre of the road
- four safe overtaking opportunities in a 2+1 and 2+2 lane arrangement replacing the single section of 2+2 lanes
- a wider highway with sealed shoulders
- curve improvements
- safe turning facilities at regular intervals
- access improvements.

These safety improvements deliver a minimum three star AusRAP* safety rating.

To reduce impact on the hawthorn hedged landscape to the west, the highway will be widened on the eastern side. Trees and other vegetation will be planted in collaboration with landowners to replace plantings removed as part of these works.

**AusRAP is a national road safety audit approach initiated by combined national motoring associations, including RACT, and uses a 5 star rating to measure safety of road infrastructure*

Flexible Safety Barriers and 2 + 1 Road Design

This design provides two lanes in one direction and one lane in the opposite direction separated by a Flexible Safety Barrier. The 2 plus 1 configuration is alternated at regular intervals to provide safe and regular overtaking opportunities, reducing driver frustration and the risk of head-on crashes. Safe turning facilities and breaks in the Flexible Safety Barrier are provided at intervals to access properties on the opposite side of the road.

Flexible Safety Barriers help absorb the impact energy, reducing the risk of serious injury and damage. Studies have found an 85% to 90% reduction in serious casualties where Flexible Safety Barriers have been installed.

Flexible Safety Barriers in the centre of the road:

- stop out-of-control vehicles from crossing into the path of on-coming traffic, preventing head-on crashes; and
- reduce the severity of single vehicle crashes, where the vehicle veers to the right.

www.transport.tas.gov.au/roadsafety/roads/flexible_safety_barriers

Timing

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Design complete | July 2016 |
| Tender advertised | Aug 2016 |
| Start of works | end 2016 |
| Completion of works | mid 2018 |