



# Northern Transitway

## Community Update

February 2020

### About the project

The Northern Transitway is a cost-effective solution to provide a high-quality public transport corridor along Gympie Road, from Sadler Street, Kedron to Hamilton Road, Chermside.

The Northern Transitway will deliver targeted bus priority from Kedron to Chermside, improving the safety and capacity of this important link in Brisbane's northern public transport network.

The 2.3km corridor will support more high frequency on-road bus services and enable more reliable travel times, encouraging more people to use public transport and assist in managing congestion by separating buses from general traffic.

More than 9,000 customers currently use buses to travel along this section of Gympie Road each weekday, and for large areas of Brisbane's North, investment in bus priority is essential. The Northern Transitway is a cost-effective step to extending the benefits of the existing busway all the way to Chermside.

### Consultation feedback

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) would like to thank the community for their feedback and input into the proposed design for the Northern Transitway.

Initial consultation with the community commenced in November 2018, and broader consultation on the proposed design was undertaken in September and October 2019, and community feedback was received at community drop-in sessions, via email and phone, and at one-to-one meetings.

Key themes identified from the feedback include:

- support for improved bus travel times and reliability.
- support for improved pathways
- support for safety benefits resulting from the access changes to side streets to left-in and left-out only
- concerns regarding 24 hour, 7 day operation of the bus lanes and loss of on-street parking on Gympie Road.
- concerns about removing the bus stops on Gympie Road near Coles, at Strathmore and Castle Streets.
- concern for changing access to some local side streets to left-in and left-out only and the increased travel requirements.
- concern regarding current congestion and delays experienced at the Gympie Road and Hamilton Road intersection.

### Consultation participation

Community feedback was received at four community drop-in sessions, over email and phone, at face-to-face meetings. This included feedback from:

Approximately 145 people attended information sessions and 94 people who provided written feedback

42 face-to-face meetings

65 people emailed or called about the project



53,000

people reached through three social media posts

### Next steps

- The detailed service planning of the bus network will continue to be refined.
- Service planning includes final route alignments and stopping patterns to ensure that we can best service the passengers who utilise these services while still ensuring that we are able to gain the significant benefits to be realised by the Northern Transitway.
- Tenders will be released in the coming months and construction is expected to start in late 2020.



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# How we have listened: Bus lane hours of operation and loss of on-street parking

## What you said

People from local businesses were concerned the 24/7 operation would remove the ability for customers and delivery drivers to park and would impact business viability.

## Removal of bus stops

### What you said

We received strong feedback from local residents who were concerned about the removal of the bus stops near the local Coles shopping centre.

We were advised that these bus stops are often used by people with mobility and accessibility requirements, and the extra distance to adjacent bus stops would be too great if they were removed.

## Local access changes

### What you said

Local residents told us they were concerned about the potential increase to traffic on local streets and the delays at key intersections along Gympie Road (in particular Rode Road and Kitchener Road/Sports Street) resulting from the changes of six unsignalised side streets to be left-in and left-out only.

## Contact us

For more information about the project, or to register for project updates, please contact the Project Team by:

- emailing [northerntransitway@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:northerntransitway@tmr.qld.gov.au)
- calling **3066 4338** during business hours
- visiting [tmr.qld.gov.au](http://tmr.qld.gov.au) and searching 'Northern Transitway'.

## What we are doing

In the final design, the bus lanes will operate in both directions during weekday, peak periods only. The AM peak period is from 6am to 9am and the PM peak period is from 3pm to 6pm, Monday to Friday.

This means approximately 5,000 passengers each weekday will benefit from the travel time savings and service reliability, while local businesses and their customers will have on-street parking available along Gympie Road outside of peak periods and on weekends.

During the hours of operation, the bus lanes will become a 'clearway' and vehicles will not be permitted to park or stop along this section of Gympie Road (for more information on 'clearway' signage visit [www.qld.gov.au/transport/safety/signs/regulatory](http://www.qld.gov.au/transport/safety/signs/regulatory)).

## What we are doing

The two bus stops on Gympie Road near Coles (Kedron) will be retained in the final design:

- Gympie Road near Strathmore Street, Kedron, Stop 29/30 (011042)
- Gympie Road near Castle Street, Kedron (003877)

This means bus customers will still be able to use these stops and will also benefit from access to the higher frequency bus services proposed to stop there as part of the Northern Transitway.

While retaining these stops will slightly decrease the efficiency of the transitway, the impact is considered minimal in comparison to the overall benefit of retaining the stops for the local community.

## What we are doing

These changes were proposed to improve safety for all road users, by removing right-turn vehicle movements across four lanes of traffic.

The final design will include a new set of traffic signals at the intersection of Gympie Road and Boothby Street, including a dedicated right-turn lane and U-turn facility. These signals will provide:

- Reduction in the volume of traffic required to make a U-turn at the Rode Road and Kitchener Road intersections, allowing the capacity of through traffic on Gympie Road to be preserved at these intersections.
- Signalised right-turn into Boothby Street, which will provide safer access for the businesses in the light-industrial precinct, and for local residents as well.
- Improved opportunity for some residents to enter and exit local streets, including Childers, Lawley and Mellor Streets.

Providing traffic signals at the Boothby Street and Gympie Road intersection will have minimal impact on the efficiency of traffic movements and will improve access and safety for local residents and businesses.