

MEDIA STATEMENT



Tuesday, 29 March 2016

Call for Koombana Drive upgrade tenders

Companies considering tendering for the upgrade to Koombana Drive and construction of a new pedestrian walkway have been encouraged to “get creative” in a bid to keep road closures to a minimum.

The road is in urgent need of repair with erosion from the Leschenault Inlet and stormwater runoff causing deterioration to the embankment and compromising the road surface, while also impacting on the timber piles supporting the George Baxter Boardwalk.

The work is expected to involve the closure of Koombana Drive to all traffic, a move that will allow the reconstruction to be completed in the shortest possible timeframe and result in significant savings to the overall project.

Bunbury Mayor Gary Brennan said the City was keen to hear all options from possible contractors.

“If the work can be safely engineered in a creative way that will keep road closures to a minimum, then let’s hear it,” Mr Brennan said.

“This is a unique project that encompasses a range of different works, such as marine walls, but we are confident that a successful tenderer will check all the boxes and carry out the work in a way that keeps disruptions to a minimum.”

It is expected that work will take up to 20 weeks. Roadworks will include widening of a 600m stretch of Koombana Drive between Estuary Drive and the Dolphin Discovery Centre, the construction of two cycleways and a median strip with street lighting.

A new roundabout that will allow better access to the Dolphin Discovery Centre and the proposed Department of Parks and Wildlife headquarters will also be built.

The scope of works will include a new marine wall and the existing boardwalk will be demolished to make way for a new land-based pedestrian path.

Tenders close on 27 April and it is anticipated that work will begin in late May.

Mr Brennan said the community would continue to be informed well in advance of any work, road closures and alternative routes into the CBD.

“We understand that this work will cause some inconvenience, however, it is a vital upgrade to key infrastructure that needs to be carried out as a priority,” he said.

ENDS

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