

## Hon Stephen Mullighan MP Minister for Transport and Infrastructure

Friday, 8 July, 2016

### **Expressions of interest called for \$238 million Torrens Junction project**

Expressions of interest are being called for a project to improve productivity on the national rail freight network and traffic flows on the Inner Ring Route.

The \$238 million joint State and Commonwealth project involves separating the freight and passenger rail lines at the Torrens Junction and creating a rail underpass to remove the level crossings at Park Terrace and Gibson Street.

The completed project will enable 1800-metre long freight trains to operate between Adelaide and Melbourne, increasing the maximum length of the trains by about 20-percent.

It will also remove the need for freight trains to stop for Outer Harbor line passenger trains.

Removing the level crossing on Park Terrace will also improve traffic flow for almost 50,000 vehicles using the Inner Ring Route each day and eliminate the need for freight trains to slow down through the Torrens Road and Hawker Street level crossings, which also adds to traffic delays.

Torrens Junction is part of the Goodwood and Torrens Junctions Upgrade, which also includes a new pedestrian and cycling overpass at Goodwood to complete the popular Mike Turtur bikeway, as well as level crossing safety improvements at Leader Street.

Together these projects are expected to support on average about 212 jobs a year during construction and will be delivered in line with the State Government's Industry Participation and Steel Procurement policies.

### **Background**

The Goodwood Junction project was completed in 2013, improving rail safety and productivity by eliminating the delays caused by the freight line crossing the Seaford passenger line.

Stage one also delivered the Adelaide Showground Station in 2014, which caters to more than 100,000 passengers a year.

For more information visit the [Torrens Rail Junction Project](#) website.

## **Quotes attributable to Transport and Infrastructure Minister Stephen Mullighan**

This project will deliver vast benefits across the economy, from productivity gains for the rail freight industry to the road improvements for commuters, transport operators and people who derive an income from our roads, such as couriers and delivery drivers.

About 160 passenger trains pass through the Torrens Junction and Park Terrace level crossing every day amounting to regular and substantial delays to the almost 50,000 vehicles which use this part of the Inner Ring Route.

The project will also reduce delays for road users at the Torrens Road and Hawker Street level crossings by removing the need for freight trains to slow down on approach to the Torrens Junction, where they must give way to Outer Harbor passenger trains.

About 11 freight trains travel through the Torrens Junction every day, closing the Torrens Road and Hawker Street level crossings for up to six minutes each time.

This project is expected to cut the time motorists spend waiting at these level crossings by more than half, improving travel times for the 25,500 vehicles on Torrens Road each day and the 5,500 vehicles using Hawker Street.

The new pedestrian and cycling overpass at Goodwood also supports the 1000 or so cyclists who commute to and from the city on the Mike Turtur Bikeway each day.

Completing the bikeway with an overpass at Goodwood Train Station will remove the need for cyclists to dismount to use the underpass, making that commute easier while encouraging more people to consider this alternative mode of transport.