

A regular bulletin to keep you informed of the progress on this major project.

## Bell - Banksia Link Heidelberg

**This bulletin will bring residents up to date with progress on the two stages of this project and advise of significant items of interest which will occur in the next few months.**

### What the project will achieve

The project provides a direct link between Bell Street and Banksia Street, completing the gap in the Bell Street - Springvale Road Highway. It will relieve traffic congestion and improve safety in the Burgundy Street shopping centre.

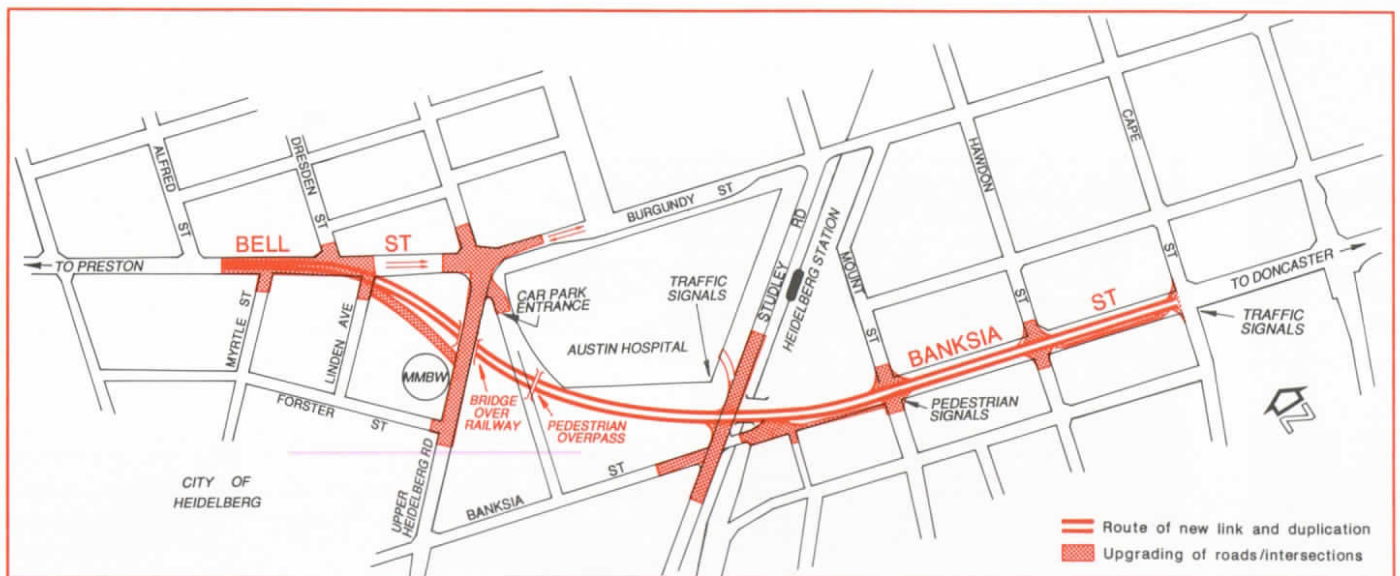
**Stage 1:** Involves duplicating Banksia Street between Cape Street and Studley Road, with a temporary connection initially between the duplication and the existing railway bridge.

- Completion of the roadworks is now expected in **early 1990**.
- The service road retaining wall between Cape Street and Hawdon Street is structurally complete with stone facing ready to proceed. The stone walls between Hawdon Street and Mount Street are nearing completion.
- Traffic has been shifted to the temporary widening on the north side of Banksia Street to allow construction of the Preston-bound lanes which are

scheduled to be completed in October 1989. Traffic will then be shifted to the new road so that the Doncaster-bound lanes can be constructed.

**Stage 2:** Involves linking Banksia Street at Studley Road and Bell Street at Myrtle Street.

- Completion of the link is now scheduled for **early 1993**;
- Construction of retaining walls between Studley Road and the Melbourne to Hurstbridge railway line has commenced and will take approximately six months;
- Alterations to services at Studley Road will commence in December 1990 ;
- Roadworks in Studley Road and the construction of a new bridge over the railway line are both scheduled to commence in January 1990;
- Major excavation for the road cutting is scheduled to begin during late 1990.





## Bell - Banksia Link

### Putting you in the know!

The Heidelberg City Council, Councillors and Roads Corporation officers have been meeting regularly since January 1988 to address planning matters and the broad issues of replacement open space and environmental treatments.

A successful public meeting held on 22 February this year highlighted a wide range of landscaping and traffic matters which are being addressed in consultation with residents and the Council.

### Landscaping

Careful attention is being paid to landscaping to ensure that the character of the area is retained and enhanced. A Landscape Consultative Committee with resident and local interest group representation is developing landscaping proposals. A preferred concept will be placed on public display shortly to enable wider community comment prior to finalising the concept and arranging detailed planting plans.

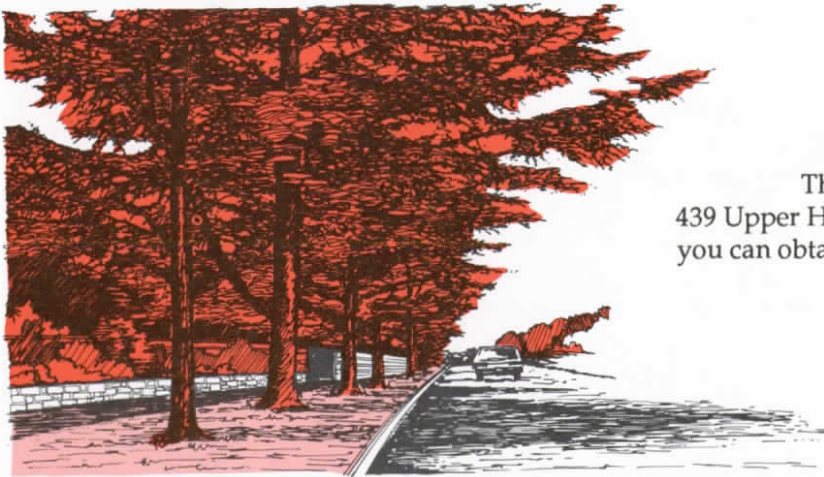
### Noise Awareness

The Roads Corporation is concerned that residents abutting both stages are not exposed to excessive traffic noise.

### Noise levels will be monitored as each stage is opened.

Existing noise levels were measured at various locations along Stage 1 in May and June this year. These measurements indicated the need to reduce noise for some properties adjoining the new road. Discussions are being held with these residents to develop effective noise reduction fencing and construction of the fencing is expected to begin shortly.

Noise measurements for Stage 2 works should be completed by December 1989.



### Managing the Traffic

Following recent completion of a traffic study and subsequent to discussion at the public meeting in February, the Roads Corporation has developed a plan to manage traffic in the area in consultation with the Council.

The plan involves the following features:

- One lane of traffic flow in each direction will generally be maintained during construction of Stage 1;
- Closure of Banksia Street to allow special works to proceed will only occur on weekends;
- Signed traffic detours via Burgundy Street;
- Installation of traffic signals at the intersection of Banksia Street and Cape Street earlier than originally scheduled to improve pedestrian safety.

The Council has also initiated the following major local treatments in consultation with resident and interest groups:

- Construction of a roundabout at Cape Street and Yarra Street;
- Other safety improvements in Cape Street;
- Trial peak-hour turning bans on sections of Lower Heidelberg Road and Banksia Street.

### Property Acquisition

Acquisition of land required for the project is well advanced, with negotiations under way for the remaining properties.

### Want more details?

The Bell - Banksia Project Office is at 439 Upper Heidelberg Road, Heidelberg, where you can obtain additional information or talk to project staff.

You are also welcome to telephone the office during business hours on 459 6211.