



Information Bulletin No. 3

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.

Bell-Banksia Link Heidelberg

What the project will achieve

A direct link will be provided 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 which will continue to carry some through traffic.

Stage 1: The duplication of the lanes in Banksia Street was essentially completed, on schedule, before Christmas 1989. Traffic will continue to use the temporary connection over the existing railway bridge at Studley Road until the link is completed, which is expected to be early 1993.

Once the link is completed, it is intended that the existing bridge over the railway line will remain in place but will be closed to traffic.

The work remaining to be done on Stage 1 includes:

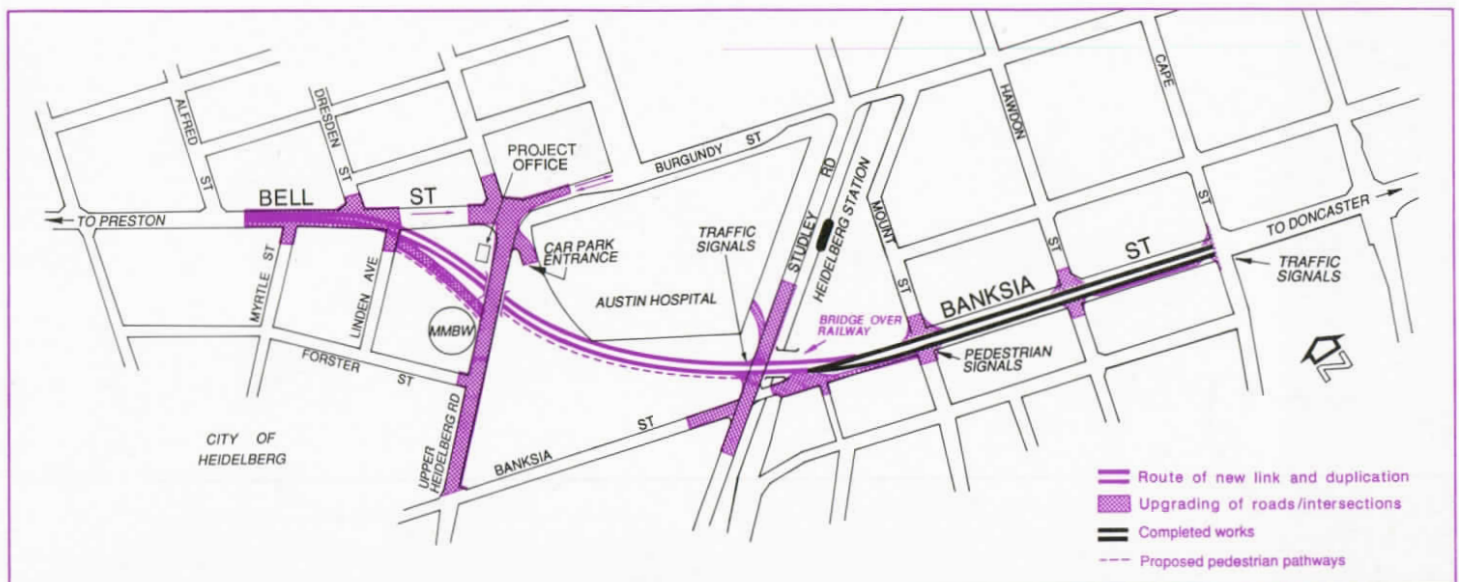
- Construction of noise fences
- Minor drainage
- Reinstatement of footpaths and nature strips
- Landscaping

Stage 2: To link Banksia Street at Studley Road with Bell Street at Myrtle Street.

Work undertaken so far includes:

- The start of construction of a new bridge over the railway line at Studley Road. Completion of this bridge is expected by early 1991
- Clearing and fencing of the road reserve between Studley Road and Linden Avenue
- Alteration of services in Upper Heidelberg Road
- Closure of Warringal Place on 1 February 1990
- Construction of replacement carparking for the Austin Hospital, which will be done by late July 1990
- Reconstruction of Upper Heidelberg Road, which should be completed by early August 1990.

Most of the construction between Studley Road and Linden Avenue will be completed under a single contract for the excavation of the cutting and construction of the retaining walls, concrete pavement, median barriers and the bridge over the link on Upper Heidelberg Road.



Bell - Banksia Link

The contract will be advertised shortly, with the work expected to be completed by late 1992.

Warringal Place is now closed to through traffic. A new footpath is to be constructed through the park after consultation with Heidelberg City Council.

Landscaping

The Stage 1 landscape concept was placed on public display in October 1989. It generally provided an exotic character to closely represent the previous exotic streetscape.

The Landscape Consultative Committee considered all comments forwarded and then adopted a final concept. Planting plans were then prepared and the landscaping on the site started on the south side of Banksia Street this autumn. The north side will be planted in spring this year following completion of noise fences, reinstatement of footpaths and drainage works. Some final landscaping on Stage 1 may need to be done in Autumn 1991.

The Landscape Consultative Committee has recently been increased by two, with a resident from Warringal Place and one from Linden Avenue.

A preferred concept for landscaping Stage 2 has now been developed by the Committee. It essentially provides for local native tree planting and some reinforcement of planting in the parkland outside the road reserve. The concept will be placed on public display to encourage wider community comment from 2nd to 14th July 1990.

VIC ROADS is very interested in your views and comments and encourage you to view the concept at any of the following display locations:

*Warringal Village Shopping Centre
Project Office (439 Upper Heidelberg Road)
Heidelberg Civic Centre
Austin Hospital*

Major Change To Project

The Warringal Place pedestrian overpass will not be built.

It was resolved that the pedestrian overpass was not practicable or warranted, and in fact pedestrians can be better served by alternative routes which are safer and more secure.

All the associated issues and alternative routes were worked through with the Council, Warringal Place residents, the Austin Hospital management and Hospital staff. In light of the investigation and consultation with the community, the Government accepted the proposal to not build the pedestrian overpass.

If anyone would like further details or explanation on this matter and arrangements for pedestrians, please contact the staff at the Project Office.

Traffic Noise

A continuing program of noise monitoring is being carried out by VIC ROADS to assess the effectiveness of noise fencing and to determine areas which require noise treatments. Noise levels will be monitored as each stage is opened. Initial noise measurements for Stage 2 were completed in September 1989.

Other Community Services

As part of its community service program, VIC ROADS has undertaken the landscaping of some of the slopes surrounding the playing fields of Our Lady of Mercy College.

Reinstatement of the front gardens of residents who have elected to have noise fences erected on their property boundaries is also being undertaken by VIC ROADS on a continuing basis as noise fencing proceeds.

Want More Details

The Bell-Banksia Project Office is at **439 Upper Heidelberg Road, Heidelberg**, where you can obtain additional information or talk to the Project staff. You are also welcome to telephone the office during business hours on **459 6211**.