

Business

In 2020, the Department engaged consultants to assess the positive and negative impact on businesses within the project area.

Existing environment

The existing South Road corridor is highly modified and located within an urbanised area of metropolitan Adelaide, with land use along the corridor varying considerably between commercial, industrial and residential. Businesses along the project corridor are diverse and each will experience a different type, scale and duration of impact.

The Business Impact Assessment (BIA) assessed the characteristics of existing local businesses operating within 200m of South Road or that are within 250m of South Road and are highly reliant on passing traffic.

Potential impacts to existing environment

There is a range of potential impacts to businesses during construction including short-term changes to access, effects from noise and vibration and interruption to essential utilities.

The BIA found approximately 950 currently operating businesses will experience changes to their environment due to construction and eventual operation of the T2D Project. The potential negative and positive effects of the project on these businesses and surrounding areas has been assessed and considered. All identified businesses were classified as either acquired under the T2D Project or not acquired and therefore potentially facing long-term impacts caused by construction activity and operation of the motorway following completion.

Of the 950 businesses operating in the project area, 184 (19%) have or are expected to be acquired. Many businesses will relocate rather than close. The Department is working closely with these businesses to support them through this process. The BIA also identified:

- approximately one third have been estimated to not be financially impacted by the project (either by acquisition or by the T2D Project's construction)
- approximately 20% of businesses were operating on commercially or industrially zoned land that is to be acquired for the project
- about half of the businesses have been estimated to be impacted due to reduced traffic volumes during and post construction
- the project will contribute about \$9 billion into the wider South Australia (SA) economy and save about the same amount in congestion costs

- it will support about 5,500 full-time equivalent jobs on average during the main construction period.

Managing impacts

The T2D Project requires an effective approach to supporting impacted business owners and tenants, and proactively managing impacts during construction and operation.

Engagement with businesses will determine which measures will be most effective at mitigating impacts associated with construction and operation of the project. Businesses will have different needs at different points in time depending on the construction timetable.

The key project phases and their support requirements are:

- **Pre-construction:** businesses will require support that enables effective planning and decision making and/or assistance relocating
- **Construction:** businesses will require support that mitigates the operational and financial impacts of construction activity
- **Post-construction:** businesses may require support (e.g. communicating changes to customers) following the construction phase.

The project is being guided by the Department's business and stakeholder engagement policies, Small Business Framework and recommendations set out in the Small Business Commissioner's guidelines (Open to Business - Making Roadworks Work).

Alternatives, mitigation, and opportunities

A series of surveys, one-on-one meetings and consultation events will help inform the T2D Project about businesses, their requirements and the needs of their customers. Engagement is underway and will continue through the detailed design and construction phases of the project.

The information will also be considered when planning the timing and location of major works to minimise impacts to local business as much as practically possible.

There will be significant processes and plans established to minimise impacts of construction activities such as traffic diversions and access changes, and noise and dust generation. These may include support such as advertising or signage to assist customers with changed access to businesses.

There will also be extensive engagement with businesses along the corridor to ensure that businesses are aware of activities that may lead to impacts to their operations.

Extra support for businesses can be accessed through:

- the Office of the Small Business Commissioner which provides a range of services and support to SA small businesses
- the Office of Small and Family Business which is a one-stop location for information, tools and templates to support and assist small business through various aspects of starting and running their business in SA. This includes information on marketing, business planning and advice, risk and financial management, and legal essentials
- the business.sa.gov.au website provides information, grants, services and support from across government to help businesses succeed.

Approvals, permits, and authorisations

While there are no internal Department approvals required for the project in relation to business, the project must demonstrate compliance with the Department's Master Specification Project Controls – Small Business Support (MS PC-CS2 Small Business Support).

The project's outcomes align strongly with key South Australian and Australian Government priorities including those listed in the following plans, reports, strategies and audits:

- 30-year Plan for Greater Adelaide: 2017 update
- 20-year State Infrastructure Strategy (2020)
- Australian Infrastructure Audit (2019)
- 2022 Regional Strengths and Infrastructure Gaps
- National Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030
- South Australia's Road Safety Strategy to 2031
- National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy 2019
- 2021 Australian Infrastructure Plan.



Scan the QR code to view the suite of assessments included in the PAR or visit T2D.sa.gov.au/PAR.

