

# Health

Construction and operation activities associated with an infrastructure project like the T2D Project have the potential to impact health if not properly identified and mitigated.

Health as defined by the Australian Environmental Health Standing Committee is ‘a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity’.

Potential impacts to health could be caused by changes in traffic safety, air quality, construction noise and vibration, site contamination or social amenity changes. These impacts can particularly affect vulnerable people who are potentially more susceptible to health impacts such as children, the elderly, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, or people with existing adverse health conditions or a disability within the project area.

A health impact assessment (HIA) focuses on those determinants of health that can be modified. The figure to the right shows the different types of modifiable elements.



Richmond Primary School



## Existing environment

It is estimated that more than 84,200 people live within the project area.

The project area includes several sensitive receptor sites or places where concentrated numbers of individuals who may be more susceptible to impacts would gather which may include:

- schools and childcare centers
- hospitals and other health services
- community facilities.

## Potential impacts to existing environment

The HIA draws together impacts from aspects covered in this Project Assessment Report (PAR) including traffic and transport, air quality, noise and vibration, site contamination and social amenity. Specific information on those impacts and their mitigation measures are provided in these sections of the PAR. The HIA provides an evaluation of how the project may potentially impact health in a positive or negative way and what processes are in place to mitigate negative impacts and realise any further beneficial opportunities.

Examples of health impacts that could arise from the project include:

- air quality impacts such as dust generation in construction and benefits in operation from lower emissions exposure
- noise and vibration effects from construction activities and operation
- changes to pedestrian and cyclist routes during construction
- benefits during operation from improved safety, connectivity, access to health, education and leisure facilities, new open spaces and increased tree canopy.

## Alternatives, mitigation and opportunities

The Department's design process is directed to realise health opportunities, maximising these benefits during early-stage design development, informed by community feedback.

Further to this, the Department will continue to undertake community and stakeholder engagement throughout the design and construction stages of the project.

The Department has health impact management measures in place that closely align with those recommended by the national HIA guidelines.

Some of the mitigation methods and plans include:

- environmental management systems that monitor, audit and report the levels of air quality, noise and vibration, and contaminated land management
- establishment of an emergency response plan to rectify situations should a construction event exceed expected conditions
- a dedicated acquisition team to assist impacted residents, businesses and communities

- a Maintenance and Incidence Response Alliance Agreement for the operational phase (maintenance) of the project which puts in place how major incidents would be responded to
- objectives which must improve safety, enhance connectivity for active travel and increase community open space
- the Department's Master Specification integrates environmental and heritage impact assessments, including health through each phase of the project
- a separate social impact assessment for the project that considers the vulnerable communities at risk from the project and proposes mitigation measures to alleviate impacts.

Scan the QR code to view the suite of assessments included in the PAR or visit [T2D.sa.gov.au/PAR](https://T2D.sa.gov.au/PAR).

