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## **South Metro Connect Project Team for Roe Extension Announced**

Dr Mike Nahan, the Member for Riverton has welcomed the announcement by Transport Minister Simon O'Brien that the South Metro Connect (SMC) project team has been formed to manage the environmental approvals, engineering design and community engagement phase of the proposed Roe Highway extension.

Dr Nahan said that at the last State election, communities across the Southern Metropolitan area had their say on this important infrastructure project and overwhelmingly voiced their support for the Roe Highway extension.

"Fundamentally, the proposed Roe Highway extension will mean less freight and passenger vehicle movements on suburban streets," he said.

"From an economic perspective, this proposed investment in the State's infrastructure will support WA jobs by improving access to the Fremantle Inner Harbour, the proposed Outer Harbour and the Kwinana Industrial Area."

Dr Nahan welcomed the Minister and the South Metro Connect team's commitment for the project to be heavily focused on achieving good environmental outcomes.

"Like any major infrastructure project, environmental issues should always be front and centre," Dr Nahan said.

"The environmental and heritage aspects of this project are highly sensitive and are extremely important to both me and the broader local community.

"I have sought assurances that the State Government has the utmost appreciation for the natural environment and are committed to the highest levels of environment standards for the proposed Roe Highway Extension."

Dr Nahan said that the Minister's announcement that the South Metro Connect team will undertake extensive community consultation as a part of the project development phase recognises the important role the community will play in helping to bring this project to fruition.

"The community will have every opportunity to have their say on this project; be it through community meetings, online forums, or by joining community reference groups," Dr Nahan said.

"The State Government's strategic infrastructure investment programme, including the extension of the Roe Highway, is something that affects all of us; taking heavy vehicles off suburban streets and supporting WA jobs both enhances our community and makes it a safer place to live."

"I would urge everyone to become involved in the early stages of the development of this important infrastructure project."

For more information from the South Metro Connect team or about the proposed Roe Highway Extension contact Dr Nahan's office on 9457 1282 or call the South Metro Connect team direct on 1800 132 572.

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