

Keperra to Ferny Grove Rail Upgrade

Issue 3 • May 2010



Concept plan consultation completed

The proposed Keperra to Ferny Grove Rail Upgrade has received strong interest from the community.

The Queensland Government invited members of the community to be involved in two stages of consultation during the concept planning phase for the proposed upgrade. Thank you to all residents who have participated in both stages of the consultation for both your attendance and your valued feedback.

On 24 April, residents participated in a community information day at the Ferny Grove Bowls Club regarding the project's concept plan.

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The project

The Keperra to Ferny Grove Rail Upgrade is the final stage of the Ferny Grove rail line duplication. It involves duplicating 3.2km of track between Keperra and Ferny Grove stations.

The project is designed to tackle traffic congestion by providing better transport options, increasing rail capacity on the Ferny Grove line and encouraging people to use more sustainable transport options.

The project also involves upgrading Ferny Grove station to improve traffic flow into and out of the station, increasing the number of commuter car parks to around 1000 through the proposed removal of the Ferny Grove Tavern, increased bicycle storage, a relocated and improved bus interchange and kiss 'n' ride, improved safety and security and improved station facilities providing disability access.

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More than 100 people attended the community information day which involved a public display of the proposed project components, attended by representatives from Queensland Rail, the Department of Transport and Main Roads and TransLink. The community information day provided residents with the opportunity to ask questions of government representatives, to learn more about the project and to provide feedback on the concept plan.

Member for Ferny Grove, Geoff Wilson MP, also attended and spoke with residents.

The community information day was the second stage of consultation for the concept plan. Ten information sessions were also held in Ferny Grove, Keperra, Arana Hills and Samford in late 2009.

The consultation for the concept planning is now complete. Feedback provided will now be considered as the project moves into the next phase of detailed design.

Community information day outcomes

Visitors to the community information day were encouraged to have their say on the concept plan by completing a feedback form.

The community information day was attended by 108 residents. Feedback was received from 76 residents (respondents).

The top five issues raised were:

Issue	Response
63% of respondents / 44% of attendees indicated they wanted to see the Ferny Grove Tavern retained on site (7% of respondents / 4.6% of attendees were in favour of its removal, 30% of respondents / 51% of attendees did not comment)	The Department of Transport and Main Roads is in discussions with the tavern owner regarding options to relocate the tavern.
41% of respondents / 29% of attendees indicated a preference to extend the rail line to Samford (8% of respondents / 6% of attendees were in favour of the track duplication, 3% of respondents / 2% of attendees said it was not needed)	The cost to extend the line to Samford is in excess of \$500 million. Patronage demand does not currently warrant the cost.
24% of respondents / 17% of attendees suggested a preference for a multi-level car park on the current car park site or above the tavern	A multi-level car park has been considered. Community feedback about these issues will be considered during detailed design.
21% of respondents / 15% of attendees recommended building a car park at an alternate location (suggestions included behind the BP service station, in the public park opposite Conavalla Street and park 'n' ride sites at Samford, Upper Kedron)	Building a car park in the vicinity of the station does not provide for a future public transport interchange, would be costly to meet disability access requirements and is not efficient for passenger access. Satellite park 'n' rides will be implemented as patronage grows. Park 'n' rides are a key strategy in providing more frequent bus services into the Ferny Grove Station.
18% of respondents / 13% of attendees indicated they were against adding more car parking spaces at Ferny Grove Station but preferred other transport solutions	This project is about providing extra parking spaces for rail commuters and promoting more sustainable transport options through an improved bus interchange facility and additional bicycle storage.

Other issues raised included:

Issue	Response
17% of respondents / 12% of attendees indicated a more frequent bus service from Samford to Ferny Grove station was required.	TransLink will work with QR, local bus operators and the community to review bus and train services prior to the opening of the upgraded Ferny Grove Station and the new bus interchange in 2012. Commuters will be notified of any changes to services.
A further 15% of respondents / 10% of attendees suggested a more comprehensive and responsive bus feeder system from areas including Kings Park, Upper Kedron, Arana Hills and Albany Creek to the station was required.	TransLink will work with QR, local bus operators and the community to review bus and train services prior to the opening of the upgraded Ferny Grove Station and the new bus interchange in 2012. Commuters will be notified of any changes to services.
12% of respondents / 8% of attendees highlighted the need for improved pedestrian and cycle access to the station.	Community feedback about these issues will be considered during detailed design.
8% of respondents / 6% of attendees would like an additional access to the station from Conavalla Street, and 4% of respondents / 3% of attendees would like to retain the pedestrian rail crossings.	The pedestrian crossings at each end of Ferny Grove Station will be closed to improve pedestrian safety. Passengers must be separated from train tracks wherever possible. The concept design proposes a centrally located access point. Community feedback about these issues will be considered during detailed design.
8% of respondents / 6% of attendees suggested the need for a kiss 'n' ride on the Conavalla Street side as well as Samford Road.	This option will be investigated during detailed design.
11% of respondents / 7% of attendees requested more than one access point to platforms (3% of respondents / 2% of attendees requested a station overpass)	For safety reasons it is not an option to retain the Arbor Street pedestrian access onto platforms. Community feedback about these issues will be considered during detailed design.
13% of respondents / 9% of attendees indicated concern about traffic flows in the commuter car park and congestion in local streets	Community feedback about these issues will be considered during detailed design.
4% of respondents / 3% of attendees indicated they were against the removal of trees in the car park	The amount of vegetation to be removed and landscaping to be undertaken will be determined during detailed design. Vegetation removal during construction will be minimised as much as possible. Residents will be advised in advance.

Where to from here?

Issues raised and feedback provided will now be considered during the project's next phase, detailed design. Detailed design will be completed by the end of 2010, as the project timeline below indicates. Further community information sessions will be conducted during the detailed design phase.

Date	Activity	Status
Late 2009	Ten information sessions showing the concept plan were held at Ferny Grove, Keperra, Arana Hills and Samford	Completed
April 2010	Community Information Day held at Ferny Grove	Completed
May 2010 to late 2010	Detailed design for station precinct	Current
November 2010	Detailed design completed. Community information sessions for final plan for Ferny Grove Station precinct	
November / December 2010	Commence construction of rail duplication within existing rail corridor	
Early 2011	Start upgrade of Ferny Grove Station and car park.	
2012	Finish track duplication. Finish upgrade of Ferny Grove Station and car park.	



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The Community Consultation Report is available for viewing on QR's website www.qr.com.au/seqip