Tonkin Highway is part of Perth’s Principal Road Freight Network that serves key activity centres such as Perth Airport and the Kewdale Freight Terminal. Tonkin Highway corridor capacity has been listed as a priority initiative by Infrastructure Australia.

Gateway WA and NorthLink WA will increase the strategic importance of the Tonkin Highway as an intra-regional and inter-regional freight route. The section of the Tonkin Highway between the Great Eastern Highway and Collier Road will constitute a bottleneck on this route unless it is upgraded to a similar standard. There are slower average speeds and longer travel times along this part of the route, as well as a reduction in amenity and a high number of crashes. Congestion at this location is expected to grow as WA’s population and economic activity continue to grow.

The project will upgrade a section of the Tonkin Highway from Collier Road to the Great Eastern Highway. The upgrade is expected to resolve a ‘gap’ in service levels and infrastructure between two Australian Government funded projects - Gateway WA and NorthLink WA. The project is estimated to support 1,050 direct and indirect jobs.

The Australian Government has committed a further $87 million as part of the 2019-20 Budget in addition to the $145 million previously committed in the 2018-19 Budget.

This project is expected to be funded on an 80:20 basis with the Western Australian Government.

**BENEFITS**

- Improve freight efficiency, connectivity and travel time.
- Improve road safety and reduce congestion for all road users.