



Government  
of South Australia

# Port River Expressway Community Update

## Stage 1 opened to traffic

Stage 1 of the Port River Expressway project was opened to traffic on 19 July 2005. Approximately 15,000 vehicles are travelling daily along the \$91.5 million, 5.5 kilometre four-lane expressway link saving up to 15 minutes in travel time. Landscaping works along the expressway will be ongoing until the end of August/early September 2005.

## Contract award - Stages 2 and 3

Abigroup Contractors Pty Ltd was awarded the contract in early July 2005 to design, construct and maintain the Port River Expressway Road and Rail Bridges across the Port River (Stages 2 and 3). Abigroup is an experienced company which undertakes around 50 projects nationally per year and has a good track record of delivering quality work to budget and on time. Abigroup has experience in designing, constructing and maintaining transport infrastructure projects with similar complexities as the Port River Expressway Road and Rail Bridges, which provides confidence of successful delivery.

## Design of bridges

The basic design of the bridges' superstructures, to be built between Docks 1 and 2, has been completed and incorporates the following features:

- a four-lane Road Bridge;
- a single track, dual gauge rail bridge;
- approximately 10 metre clearance to Mean Sea Level to allow tourist boats and smaller vessels unlimited passage;
- spans to provide a 30 metre opening to allow large vessels and tall ships river access to the Inner Harbour;
- sleek lines and open structure to minimise visual impact on the surrounding environment;
- urban design initiatives that are consistent with the character of Port Adelaide and the Port Waterfront Redevelopment project;
- a glass curtain wall to facilitate viewing of the bridges' operating mechanism;
- opening and closing times of 70 seconds; and
- back up means of opening and closing the bridge in the event of a power failure.

The detailed design phase of the project is currently underway to allow piling in the Port River to start in October/November 2005.

## Protecting the environment

Environmental management is a key consideration in the Port River Expressway project and Abigroup is required to adhere to numerous environmental and related guidelines. An Environmental Management Plan has been developed outlining an extensive range of environmental management measures to ensure construction of the bridges and related infrastructure is undertaken in an environmentally sensitive manner. Key environmental issues considered in the Environmental Management Plan include: construction/operation noise and vibration (including impacts to dolphins and other marine life), land contamination (leachates), resource use and recycling.

## Community involvement

Community involvement for the project will involve a wide range of activities that will contribute to the detailed design and construction phases of the Road and Rail Bridges. These activities will include:

- a Community Liaison Group;
- issuing regular community updates in the *Portside Messenger*;
- key stakeholder groups;
- letterbox drops about project activities;
- public displays;
- a telephone contact line 1300 130 653;
- local operational information - traffic changes and marine changes published in the *Portside Messenger* and radio; and
- a project website [www.dtei.sa.gov.au](http://www.dtei.sa.gov.au).

## Community Liaison Group

A Community Liaison Group has been formed to discuss Stages 2 & 3 of the Port River Expressway project works and facilitate information flow to the community. The group will operate throughout the design and construction stages of the project, over a period of approximately two years. The group will operate within a consultative framework and all input from the group will be considered in light of the overall project objectives and requirements of the contract with Abigroup.

## Site office

Abigroup and the Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure's site office will be located at the corner of Ocean Steamers Road and St Vincent Street, Port Adelaide. Installation of site office facilities will begin in early September with completion scheduled for the end of September.

## Construction Program

Significant site work in readiness for the bridges has already taken place with the clearance of dock sheds, relocation of the Aviation Museum and remediation of the wharf on the western side of the river.

Site clearance of St Vincent St East and Eastern Bypass will begin in early September and site fencing will be progressively installed from early September to delineate the construction site and provide security.

Foundation piling in the river will start in October/November 2005. The Rail Bridge is scheduled for completion in mid 2007 with the Road Bridge expected to be completed in late 2007.

## Website

The Port River Expressway website at [www.dtei.sa.gov.au](http://www.dtei.sa.gov.au) has been revamped to include updated information about the project.

This informative website has been redesigned to incorporate user-friendly functions, visually attractive features and detailed project information.

The site includes a range of new photos, aerial shots, maps and plans including:

- general information about each stage of the project;
- photomontages of the future Road and Rail Bridges;
- interesting facts and figures;
- media releases for the project;
- construction details of Stage 1 of project with interesting photos;
- estimated dates for significant milestones; and
- information about the construction work for the Road and Rail Bridges including a feedback facility.

Log onto the website to see the remaining stages of the Port River Expressway project transform and keep up to date with the latest information about the construction works.

## Want to know more?

Updates of progress associated with the Port River Expressway project will be provided through the *Portside Messenger*. General information about the project can be viewed on the Port River Expressway website at [www.dtei.sa.gov.au](http://www.dtei.sa.gov.au) or you can speak to someone on 1300 130 653.

**Funding for the \$178 million Port River Expressway Road and Rail Bridges is a joint contribution between the State and Federal Governments under the AusLink Investment Program.**