



SENATOR THE HON CHRIS EVANS

Senator for Western Australia
Leader of the Government in the Senate

RITA SAFFIOTI MLA

Member for West Swan

MEDIA RELEASE

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Reid Highway overpass open to traffic

Reid Highway's two new bridges crossing over Alexander Drive opened to traffic today, helping to put an end to the intersection's 'black spot' status.

Senator for Western Australia, Chris Evans, and State Member for West Swan, Rita Saffioti, joined WA Minister for Transport, Troy Buswell, to mark the overpass' completion.

Senator Evans said the ceremony represented a major milestone of the Reid Highway-Alexander Drive Interchange project.

"This overpass will provide relief for the 86,000 vehicles that use this road every day," Senator Evans said.

"It will relieve congestion, reduce delays and improve safety at the intersection. Importantly, it also has the capacity to cope with the expected growth in traffic over the next two decades.

"This intersection was ranked among the most dangerous black spots in the Perth metropolitan area. This overpass will significantly reduce the number of accidents we see here."

Further work will continue on the interchange project, with on/off ramps from Alexander Drive to Reid Highway to be constructed, bus lanes to be added to Alexander Drive and a double right-turn to be installed for the large number of southbound vehicles turning right onto Reid Highway.

Member for West Swan, Rita Saffioti MLA, welcomed the opening.

"Local motorists can look forward to a reduction in delays," she said.

"The overpass will be a major boost for our public transport, cutting the delays currently experienced by thousands of bus commuters during peak times. Bus users will see even further improvement once the additional constructions are completed.

"I'm very pleased that this Labor project wasn't swallowed up by the State Liberal Government's capital works review."

The new interchange was jointly funded, with the Gillard Government contributing \$10 million through the Nation Building Program and the State Government providing the rest.

The Federal Government has committed \$3.5 billion for transport infrastructure in Western Australia through the Nation Building Program (2008-09 to 2013-14).

Media contacts: Daniel Pastorelli (Rita Saffioti MLA) – 9248 3822