

Western Brisbane Transport Network Investigation

Fact sheet

The Western Brisbane Transport Network Investigation is a strategic study focussed on the investigation of regionally significant transport links and travel patterns across western Brisbane.

The 2026 Base Case

The Western Brisbane Transport Network Investigation is developing a transport network strategy for the year 2026 and beyond.

“The 2026 Base Case is the investigation’s starting point for modelling what the future transport network will possibly look like.”

But when looking to the year 2026 and thinking about what the future network might look like, it’s not just a matter of looking at how our transport network performs now, adding in our strategies and then comparing the two.

The state government already has plans in place to implement other projects that will have an impact on the performance of the transport network. These need to be taken into account.



For example, detailed in the 2007-2026 South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program (SEQIPP) is \$50 billion in transport infrastructure spending to 2026.

The ‘2026 Base Case’ has been developed as the investigation’s starting point for assessing possible transport networks for the future. The Base Case takes into consideration all that is currently planned to occur in the next 20 years, and assumes the following plans will be implemented:

1. All transport infrastructure projects detailed in South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program as well as the Draft Translink Network Plan initiatives within the investigation’s study area
2. The committed projects in the Department of Main Roads five year program
3. Committed and proposed projects by Brisbane City Council (excluding the Northern Link and East West Link projects)
4. The Ipswich City Council investment strategy and the Pine Rivers Shire Council Priority Infrastructure Program

There are also assumptions made about the percentage of trips made by walking, cycling or using public transport.

The 2026 Base Case also takes into account key demographic data which predicts population growth, and where people are likely to be living and working. Where people live, work and play determines the transport patterns and demand, and the distances that people and goods have to travel.

The 2026 Base Case shows us if we need to do more than what is already planned – and if so, where and what we need to target. It gives us a starting point to test some potential strategies.



Some of the 2026 Base Case early findings

Population Growth

- The population of South East Queensland will grow by more than one million by 2026. Of these, it is expected that 210,000 will live in Ipswich, 190,000 in Brisbane and 150,000 in Pine Rivers/Caboolture.

Employment

- While the Brisbane Central Business District (CBD), Ipswich and the Australia Trade Coast will be major employment centres, there are other employment opportunities of increasing importance.

Trip demands on the network

- Population growth in the Ipswich region would result in an approximate 130 per cent increase in trip demand to the Brisbane Central Business District.
- Population growth in the Pine Rivers and Caboolture Shires would lead to a 50 per cent increase in trip demand to the Brisbane Central Business District.
- The trip demand between the Ipswich region and Pine Rivers and Caboolture Shires would remain relatively low in the future.
- Total person trips across south east Queensland would increase by about 45 per cent between 2005 and 2026.

Walk/Cycle

- The number of walk and cycle trips would increase as a result of current policies, but would not change significantly from the current share of 11 per cent of total trips on the network.

Public Transport

- Public transport patronage is assumed to grow at 2.7 per cent compound per annum. While this would increase the existing public transport usage across south east Queensland by about 70 per cent - the daily mode share within the network would stay at approximately 7 per cent.

Freight

- Freight volumes are expected to double by 2026. A large part of this increase is predicted to include the pick up and delivery of goods in the Brisbane area rather than long haul freight.

South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program would improve future network travel conditions but more is needed

- South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program investment is assumed in the 2026 Base Case, and the planned programs would improve conditions in many of the strategic transport corridors. However, if we want to reduce congestion and improve services beyond what the 2026 Base Case delivers, and/or increase the proportion of trips on public transport, additional investment in western Brisbane will be required.



To find out more visit our website www.wbtqi.net.au or to have your say on the investigation, please contact the team:

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