

**Public record pursuant to s39(1) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986***

**Proposal Title:** Swan River Crossings - Fremantle

**Proposal Location:** City of Fremantle

**Case Number:** CMS17891

**Date referral received:** 31-08-2020

**Date more information received:** 24-09-2021

**Referrer:** Main Roads Western Australia

**Proponent:** Main Roads Western Australia

**Potential significant effects:**

There are potential temporary impacts to the Swan River environment and noise amenity of surrounding residents during construction of the traffic and rail bridge, as well as potential impacts to noise amenity, Aboriginal and historical heritage from implementing the proposal.

**Preliminary key environmental factors:** Marine Environment Quality, Benthic Communities and Habitat, Marine Fauna, Inland Waters, Terrestrial Environment Quality and Social Surroundings.

**Public comment on referral information:**

Do not assess:	0
Assess: a) Referral information	2
b) Environmental review - no public review	2
c) Public environmental review	123 + 23
<i>Total submissions:</i>	150

**Decision:** s. 39A – Not Assess

Referral examined, preliminary investigations and inquiries conducted. Proposal not to be assessed under Part IV of the EP Act.

**Explanation of decision:**

The EPA notes that since the referral the proponent undertook further consultation with the local community and stakeholders, and has clarified that the new bridge alignments will be located between the existing traffic and rail bridges.

Having considered the information received from other decision-making authorities, key stakeholders, the proponent and the public comments, the EPA considers that while the proposal has potential to generate a high level of public interest within the local community, the likely environmental effects of the proposal are not so significant as to warrant formal assessment. This is because of the small geographic footprint; the location of the proposal at a highly modified portion of the Swan River (from existing transport infrastructure); and that the extent and consequence of the potential biophysical impacts are predicted to be small and manageable.

It is noted that the new bridges will have less footings and disturbance in the Swan River bed than the existing Fremantle rail and traffic bridges.

Given the existing noise from current infrastructure and traffic and noting the bridge alignment is now to the west of the existing traffic bridge, the project is unlikely to have a significant impact on noise amenity when compared with existing noise environment. It is noted there are potential reductions in noise levels as a result of the change in alignment.

The EPA is of the view that potential impacts of the proposal can be adequately managed through the implementation of the proposal in accordance with the referral documentation.

**Appeals:** This decision is appealable. Appeals close 15-11-2021. Appeals are administered by the Office of the Appeals Convenor.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'MAT TONTS', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

**Professor Matthew Tonts**

CHAIR

Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority

**Date:** 20 October 2021