

### **3.10 Access and Traffic**

#### **3.10.1 Construction**

Whilst there were many complaints during the construction phase regarding impacts upon road-users, it is considered that this is an unavoidable consequence of building such a major project over an existing road network, and that few of these impacts could have been avoided. Measures to minimise the impact included providing proposed construction details to the CLG and then scheduling activities to minimise disruption. This included avoiding activities around school drop-off and pick-up times, as well as on Saturdays when sporting activities were occurring.

During construction it was necessary to divert traffic via Stock Route Road. This was upgraded from dirt to bitumen seal and remains as a positive legacy of the project.

It is considered that Abigroup did a good job of facilitating its activities around community needs, and kept its impacts well contained.

#### **3.10.2 Operation**

The Upgrade has significant benefits to the travelling public and transport sector, with associated reductions in travel times and fuel usage, and safer travel. It also has significant benefits to the local community due to reduced traffic on the local service roads, and new cycle and pedestrian facilities, particularly around the Brunswick River and Billinudgel.

A new access to Billinudgel has been provided through the industrial area at the southern end of the town from the service road via Bonanza Drive, with improved access and reduced travel times associated with this industrial area.

Efforts to ameliorate the impacts upon Billinudgel's retail businesses that rely on passing trade resulted in a second access and aggress being provided directly from the Upgrade at Wilfred Street. This was in response to community feedback during the environmental impact assessment process / concept design process. Landscaping in front of the Humble Pie Shop has been designed to maintain views of this and other businesses and consequently maintain public awareness of their presence.

As a consequence of the measures incorporated into the design, that the predicted and actual impacts are similar.