

MEDIA STATEMENT

28 May 2020

Road upgrades provide safer workplace for transport inspectors

New signs, better linemarking and a speed limit change will form part of upgrades to the Townsville Port Access Road.

Transport and Main Roads Director-General Neil Scales said almost 3000 vehicles, including more than 800 heavy vehicles, travelled on the road every day.

“Every one of these vehicles travels past TMR's heavy vehicle inspection site, which is located just north of the Bruce Highway intersection, along with a heavy vehicle breakdown pad,” Mr Scales said.

“With large volumes of heavy vehicles travelling at high speeds, along with trucks entering and exiting the inspection site or breaking down trailers at the pad, there is a lot of activity in the area.

“This has the potential to cause safety issues for all road users, but particularly for our transport inspectors who work at the site undertaking monitoring and compliance activities.

“The department assessed the location and determined several changes that could be made to improve road safety around the inspection site.”

Mr Scales said changes on this section would include extending the current permanent 80 km/h speed zone by an additional 1.2 kilometres to include the heavy vehicle inspection site.

“Additionally, when inspectors are working at the site, the speed will also be temporarily reduced to 60km/h along this extended section,” he said.

“We will also upgrade all signs to meet latest standards including site specific intelligent transport systems, and installing new linemarking to prevent vehicles overtaking within the extents of the inspection site.

“Safety is our number one priority, and temporary traffic control measures including signs and speed reductions will be in place while works are completed.

“I ask all drivers to be aware of the changes and always drive with caution around the inspection site to enable our transport inspectors to safely carry out their duties.”

The works will be carried out from this month (late May) until mid August, weather permitting.

The \$250,000 project is funded by the Queensland Government.

For more information, contact the Department of Transport and Main Roads' Northern District office on 1800 625 648 or by email at engagement.northern@tmr.qld.gov.au.

For the latest road and traffic conditions, visit qldtraffic.qld.gov.au

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Media contact: TMR Media Unit, 3066 7060