

Bruce Highway Managed Motorways Project

Start of VSL operations

Bruce Highway Variable Speed Limit Signs

Overview

Variable Speed Limit (VSL) signs will begin operating on the Bruce Highway southbound lanes between Uhlmann Road and the Pine River from late February 2016.

The electronic signs are used to display reduced speed limits in response to changing road conditions such as traffic congestion, incidents or bad weather. When no speed reductions are needed, the signs will display the default 100km/h speed limit.

How it works

Live traffic conditions will be monitored via CCTV cameras and in-pavement vehicle detectors, and changes to the speed limit will be made as needed. For example, the signs will be used if congestion is approaching, or occurs, during the weekday morning peak period.

If congestion is imminent, the signs will reduce the speed limit to 80km/h. If congestion occurs and vehicle speeds drop to below 80km/h, the signs will reduce the speed limit to 60km/h. The speed limit will be reduced in 20km/h increments to slow vehicles down safely in advance of congestion.

Benefits to motorists

The VSL signs will aim to improve safety and reduce the crash risk on the Bruce Highway. By adjusting the speed limit to suit the road conditions, this will encourage motorists to drive at speeds appropriate to the conditions.

- **Safety** will be improved by reducing the speed differences between vehicles, minimising lane changing and braking caused by speed differences, and increasing the time for drivers to react to changing conditions.
- **Crash risk** will be reduced by reducing the likelihood and severity of rear-end crashes.

Timeframes

The VSL signs will be tested during February 2016, and are due to start operating later that month. For the first several weeks, the signs will display the default speed of 100km/h to allow the system to be assessed. After this, the signs will begin full operations.

More information

- visit www.tmr.qld.gov.au and search 'Bruce Highway Managed Motorways Project'
- call **5451 7055** (during office hours from Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5pm)
- email northcoast@tmr.qld.gov.au.

For up-to-date information about traffic conditions, visit www.131940.qld.gov.au or call **13 19 40**.

