

## Bridge construction – driven piling

As part of the Ipswich Motorway Upgrade from Wacol to Darra, Main Roads is undertaking a major transformation of the existing Centenary Highway Interchange roundabout into a multi-level system interchange, including the construction of 26 bridges.

These bridges will rely upon piles to form a solid foundation and work has now commenced to put these piles in place.

### What is piling?

Piles are built to support a bridge or other structure through softer soil layers onto a strong layer of soil or rock. They form a solid foundation in areas where soil closer to the surface does not have the strength to support a certain structure.

The method chosen for a particular area depends on factors such as soil type and size of the load each pile must bear. The technique that will be used the most on the Ipswich Motorway Upgrade from Wacol to Darra is 'driven piling'. Driven piling involves pre-casting the piles, then lifting them into place with a crane. The piling rig then drives the pile into the ground to a predetermined depth.

### What are the impacts of piling?

#### Noise and vibration:

Piling can create increased levels of noise and vibration. For this reason, driving of piles on the Ipswich Motorway Upgrade – Wacol to Darra will only occur between 7am and 5:30pm on business days (not on weekends or public holidays).

Equipment will be in place to monitor noise and vibration levels in residential areas.

#### Minor lane closures during off-peak hours

Due to the length of the piles, they may need to be erected at night to

avoid any impacts on the current roadway. During this time, minor lane closures may be required to ensure the safety of passing motorists.

#### When will piling occur in my area?

Initial piling will commence on 27 June. Ongoing piling activities will be occurring infrequently between 7am and 5:30pm from Monday to Friday until early 2009. Most of the initial work will occur around the current Centenary Highway Interchange and alongside the Ipswich Motorway over Bullockhead and Sandy Creeks.



An example of driven piling, courtesy of Wagstaff Piling.

### Contact us

Community Engagement Team

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\*Higher rates apply from mobile phones and pay phones. If calling outside of Queensland, STD rates will apply.

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\*Visit the website to receive free project updates direct to your mobile phone.

The Department of Main Roads would like to thank you for your cooperation and patience during this important program.

Work is subject to weather and construction conditions with dates subject to change.