

12 March 2012



IMPORTANT ROAD INFORMATION

The Department of Transport and Main Roads is pleased to advise that major construction works on the \$150 million upgrade of 3.4km of the Cairns Bruce Highway between Sheehy Road (Forest Gardens) and Ray Jones Drive will commence in the coming weeks.

Preparation works began in late 2011 and the project is scheduled for completion by the end of 2013, weather permitting. CairnsConnect, a joint venture between BMD Constructions and Albem Operations Pty Ltd has been contracted to design and construct this first stage of the Cairns Bruce Highway Upgrade.

As part of the project, regular updates like this one will be provided to the local community to advise of upcoming construction activities and what to expect during that time. For the next three months, specific works to be undertaken will include:

- clearing vegetation from the road reserve areas
- removing the entranceway into Forest Gardens
- installing traffic management barriers and signage throughout the project site
- relocating essential services such as fibre optics, power and water within the project site
- commencing earthworks and relocating excavated materials
- installing new site drainage and extending existing culverts
- constructing a temporary access road at Sheehy Road and Progress Road
- commencing bridge piling works for the interchange over the highway at Sheehy Road
- commencing construction of the service access roads on both sides of the highway
- closing the dedicated right turn lane from the highway into Progress Road and Sheehy Road, with alternative access via Coombs Street or Anderson Road.

Normal working hours for this project are between 6am and 6pm, Monday to Sunday. During this time you may notice some increased noise and minor traffic disruptions as a result of these works. While the majority of works will be carried out during these hours, some night works may be required. Residents will be given advance notice of any work that needs to be undertaken outside of normal working hours.

Over the coming months minor lane closures and reduced speed limits will apply to most roads located within the worksite, including Forest Gardens Boulevard, Sheehy Road and Progress Road. Off-peak lane closures and reduced speed limits will also occur along the highway and Ray Jones Drive.

Traffic controllers and signage will be in place to safeguard pedestrians, motorists and road workers, and variable message signs located along the project length will provide commuters with information about any detours or potential delays.

A fact sheet has been included with this letter to provide you with some information about the project, its background and the scope of works. Please be assured that we are working hard to minimise construction impacts on the local community, and that we are happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have. Your patience and cooperation is appreciated while these works are under way.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the Cairns Bruce Highway Upgrade, you can call the toll-free project information line on 1800 657 724 or send an email to cbhu@bmd.com.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tony Potter".

Tony Potter
Regional Director (Far North)
(Enc)