

4 June 2012

IMPORTANT ROAD INFORMATION

The Department of Transport and Main Roads is pleased to provide the following construction update on the \$150 million upgrade of the Cairns Bruce Highway, between Sheehy Road and Ray Jones Drive.

Over the next three months the contractors, CairnsConnect, a joint venture between BMD Constructions and Albem Operations will be undertaking the following works:

- installing new culverts and drainage
- commencing works on the highway centre medians
- installing permanent messaging signs and fencing
- continuing earthworks operations at Red Hill, near the cane railway line
- protecting and relocating services such as fibre optics, power and water within the project corridor
- commencing construction of the two new parallel service roads on the eastern and western sides of the highway
- permanently closing the left turn from the Bruce Highway into Forest Gardens Boulevard; alternative access will be via Foster Road
- permanently closing the right turn from the Bruce Highway into Progress Road/Sheehy Road; alternative access will be via Coombs Street
- commencing earthworks, piling and bridge construction works on the half diamond interchange at Sheehy Road/Forest Gardens Boulevard and on the highway overpass at Ray Jones Drive.

Normal working hours for this project continue to be between 6am and 6pm, Monday to Sunday. During this time, **noise and vibrations** will be generated as a result of the bridge piling and construction works. It is anticipated that the overall piling works will take up to four months to complete, weather permitting.

During the bridge and construction works vibrations may be noticeable to the occupants of properties located adjacent to construction areas, however all equipment, including piling and compaction equipment, will work within the limits set by the Australian Standards. Vibration levels will be monitored closely to ensure these limits are not exceeded.

Over the coming months, **minor lane closures, diversions and reduced speed limits** will continue to apply to most roads located within the worksite, including **Forest Gardens Boulevard, Progress Road, Sheehy Road, Kowinka Street, Anderson Road and Rigg Street**. Off-peak lane closures, diversions and reduced speed limits will also occur along the **Bruce Highway and Ray Jones Drive**. Traffic controllers and signage will be in place to safeguard pedestrians, motorists and road workers, with variable message signs used to provide commuters with information about any detours or potential delays.

Please be assured that we are working hard to minimise construction impacts 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, send an email to cbhu@bmd.com.au or visit www.tmr.qld.gov.au/projects.

Yours sincerely



Tony Potter
Regional Director (Far North)