

## Pacific Motorway Upgrade and funding

This project is part of the State Government's plan to upgrade the Pacific Motorway (known as the M1) between Brisbane and Tugun. The State Government has already allocated \$427 million over five years for planning, design and preconstruction works. Concept design planning is well advanced for the section of motorway between Nerang South and Varsity Lakes including the Mudgeeraba Interchange. Federal Government funding for this national highway link, has been requested to allow work to proceed on stage one of the M1 Upgrade, between Nerang South and Varsity Lakes, as quickly as possible. For further information please visit [www.mainroads.qld.gov.au](http://www.mainroads.qld.gov.au)

## Why should the Federal Government contribute?

The Federal Government paid a share of the previous M1 Upgrade. As well, for the Pacific Highway Upgrade in New South Wales, the Federal Government is providing funding of \$1.6 billion over ten years, as well as \$160 million in the last Federal Budget. The Federal Government is receiving over \$330 million a year from Gold Coast motorists in fuel tax, but the last major funding for Gold Coast Roads was in 2003: a capped \$120 million towards the Tugun Bypass.



## Planning study progress

**The planning study to upgrade the Pacific Motorway from Nerang to Tugun is well advanced.**

In the first phase, Main Roads undertook:

- » economic, social and environmental impacts;
- » engineering studies to develop the concept designs; and
- » a whole of government approach to the integrated road and rail solution for the M1 corridor.

Consultation with stakeholders and the community continues and is a key element of the planning study. In July last year, Main Roads produced a newsletter for residents and businesses within the project corridor and received approximately 370 responses. The issues raised by the community have been considered in developing the concept designs.

These concept designs will be available for public display and comment, and for viewing on the Main Roads website [www.mainroads.qld.gov.au](http://www.mainroads.qld.gov.au) Please see the back page of this newsletter for times and locations.

The concept designs provide:

- » additional lanes;
- » traffic signals and new entry and exit ramps to reduce interchange congestion; and
- » improve safety and decrease the time and cost of travelling between Nerang and Varsity Lakes.

A preferred design option for the M1 between Nerang and Varsity Lakes will be proposed in late 2007 for the State Government's consideration. Stage 2, from Varsity Lakes to Tugun is the subject of further preliminary planning and will be the subject of a separate newsletter later in 2007.

## What you have told us to date

It is important for the whole community to get involved in the study, particularly local residents and businesses. A Main Roads' priority is to understand community issues about the Pacific Motorway and to consider this feedback to develop the concept designs. Main Roads will continue to conduct regular community consultation.

The main issues raised by the community so far include:

- » Issues associated with the ease of access on and off the M1;
- » The need for additional lanes to reduce congestion and improve travel times;
- » Longer entry and exit road lengths to improve traffic flow;
- » Pedestrian provision across the motorway; and
- » Improved signage.

## What social and environmental studies have we undertaken so far?

A number of studies have been undertaken by the project team. These studies document the likely impacts of the M1 Upgrade on the environment and identify measures to minimise them.

Social and environmental studies included investigating impacts on flora, fauna, soil, water, traffic noise, air quality, cultural heritage and visual amenity.

In line with Main Roads' commitment to protecting flora and fauna potentially affected by the M1 Upgrade, a team of environmental scientists carried out day and night time surveys along the project corridor in August last year. They investigated the potential environmental impact that the M1 Upgrade may have on local birds, mammals, frogs and vegetation. This information was considered in developing the concept designs.

To investigate the impacts of traffic noise, Main Roads has undertaken a comprehensive noise monitoring study involving approximately 100 locations from Nerang to Tugun. The results from this monitoring will be included in the concept designs to determine the potential traffic noise for 2026. Appropriate noise management strategies will be developed during the design phase of the project.



### Predicting future traffic

Our planning study team develops engineering solutions in a number of ways. One is to predict the future traffic needs along the M1 corridor from Nerang to Tugun. Traffic modellers use computer models to show the existing traffic operations in the study corridor and compare that data with manually counted traffic volumes, which Main Roads updates on a regular basis. This information also helps paint a picture for the study team of what occurs on the Motorway on a daily basis.

A recent manual traffic count using a Origin/Destination Survey was completed during the first stage of the Planning Study in late last year. The information from this survey provided input into the traffic models to give the planning team an idea of the percentage of through and local traffic currently using the motorway from Nerang to Tugun.

**Currently 90,000 vehicles use this section of the motorway daily. By 2026 this is expected to reach 130,000 vehicles per day.**

All available demographic data and population forecasts for 2026 will be entered into the computer model to predict the trips that additional population growth will generate. Traffic modelling plays an important role in assessing a range of traffic issues including new road design and construction, interchange improvement, traffic flow, signal control, intersection analysis, pollution and safety. We use models to demonstrate the effectiveness of different traffic schemes.

Transport modelling is one technical part of the Planning Study that has enabled the Study Team to develop the concept designs.



More information about the Pacific Motorway Upgrade can be found on the Main Roads website at: [www.mainroads.qld.gov.au](http://www.mainroads.qld.gov.au)





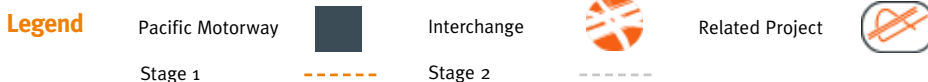
## Concept Design for the M1 Upgrade

Since June 2006 Main Roads, through this Planning Study, has been developing concept designs for the upgrade of the M1 from Nerang to Tugun. In order to achieve an integrated approach to planning, the study team has been working very closely with Gold Coast City Council on a service road strategy to complement the M1 concept designs. Main Roads has also sought input from a range of stakeholders, including Queensland Rail, in developing the concept designs.

These concept designs may change as the study progresses based on additional technical data and community and stakeholder feedback. **Due to the length of the motorway concept designs will be presented as fact sheets. These fact sheets can be downloaded or viewed online at [www.mainroads.qld.gov.au](http://www.mainroads.qld.gov.au) or ring freecall 1800 112 476 for copies.**

Alternatively, you can visit one of our staffed or unstaffed displays. Times and locations can be found online or at the end of this newsletter.

## Pacific Motorway Upgrade Nerang - Tugun



## Safety is a priority

Over the past five years, there have been over 500 accidents on the M1 between Nerang and Tugun. This figure alone makes safety a major priority for the study. The study team has been investigating ways to make the M1 safer.

An upgraded motorway from Nerang to Tugun could provide additional benefits for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists that include:

- » Rationalising existing interchanges and upgrading entry and exit ramps;
- » Providing 6 to 8 lanes on the M1;
- » Improving alignment;
- » Ensuring connectivity and integration with the service road network;
- » Making provision for cyclists and pedestrians; and
- » Investigating ways of providing an alternative route for traffic in emergencies.

## Related Projects

### Mudgeeraba Interchange

Community consultation is continuing and is incorporated into the planning for the M1 Upgrade. Preliminary design is continuing and is expected to be complete in mid 2007.

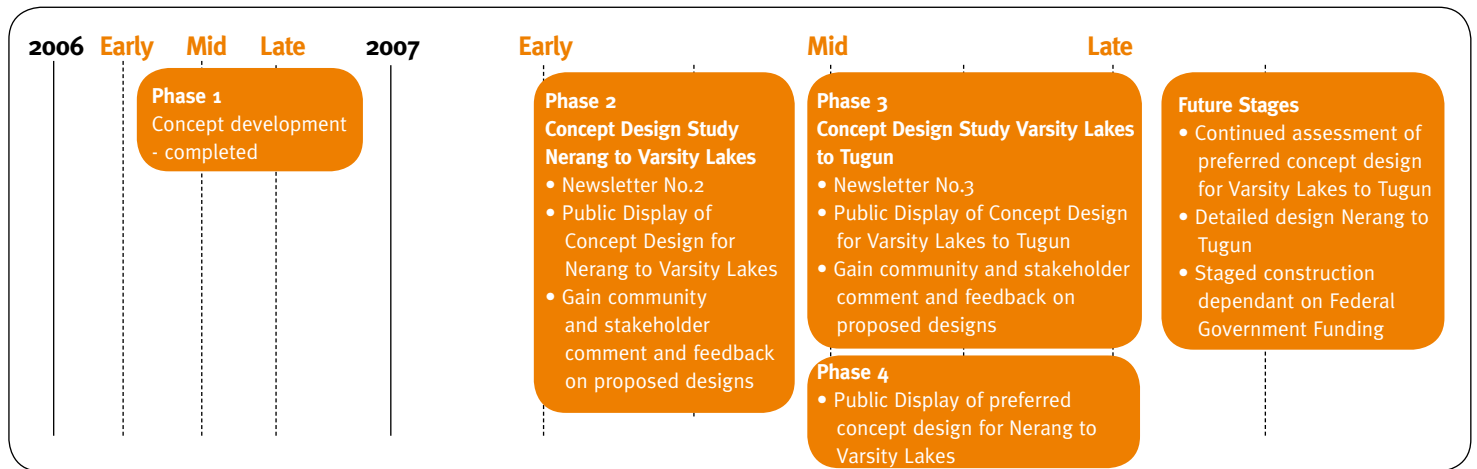
### Nerang South Interchange (Nielsen's Road)

An upgrade of this interchange will include additional overpass lanes, traffic signals and new entry and exit ramps to reduce congestion. Construction is subject to a Federal Government funding contribution.

### Tugun Bypass

In June last year construction began on the bypass around the congestion hot spot of Tugun. In February 2007 the Tugun Bypass project successfully achieved a major milestone, the completion of tunnel excavation. This was achieved on time and on budget. The Tugun Bypass is expected to be completed mid 2008.

# Project Timeline



## Where to from here?

In late 2007, the project team will present a preferred concept design for Nerang to Varsity Lakes, which will include community and stakeholder feedback, and a draft Business Case to the State Government for its consideration. Timing of construction still depends on the availability of Federal Government funding.

## Find out more

We invite you to visit a staffed display and talk to a team member at:

### Staffed Displays

Dates	Location	Display Duration	Times (Staffed)
30 April – 5 May	<b>Stockland</b> Burleigh West Shopping Centre 149 West Burleigh Road (Outside Strand Bags)	30 April – 5 May	Thursday 3 May 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm Saturday 5 May 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
3 – 5 May	<b>Mudgeeraba</b> Mudgeeraba Market Shopping Centre 3 Swan Lane (Outside Woolworths)	Nil	Thursday 3 May 2:30 pm – 6:30 pm Saturday 5 May 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
7-12 May	<b>Robina Town Centre</b> Off Robina Parkway (Outside Kmart)	7-12 May	Thursday 10 May 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm Saturday 12 May 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
7-12 May	<b>Nerang Centro</b> 57 Station Street Nerang (Outside Coles)	7-12 May	Thursday 10 May 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm Saturday 12 May 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

### Static Displays

Dates	Location
30 April – 5 May	<b>The Pines Shopping Centre</b> Cnr Guineas Creek Rd & KP McGrath Drive Elanora (Outside Coles)
30 April – 12 May	<b>Gold Coast City Council Library</b>

You can also view the project designs at other selected libraries and community centres. To find a location near you, please call the project freecall number or visit our website.

## How can I contribute?

Input from local residents, businesses and the broader community is important to developing the preferred upgrade option.

Please complete and return the attached feedback form or contact the Pacific Motorway Upgrade-South team.

**Phone:** Project freecall 1800 112 476

**Fax:** (07) 3858 6705

**Attention:** Pacific Motorway Upgrade – South

**Email:** pacificmotorwayupgrade@maunsell.com

**Visit:** www.mainroads.qld.gov.au

**Go to:** Projects / Roads / South East Queensland / South Coast Hinterland / Pacific Motorway Upgrade - South

**Write:** Pacific Motorway Upgrade – South

Reply Paid 1823

MILTON BC QLD 4064

# Comment Form

Please complete this comment form, detach it from the brochure, fold and tape it closed, and post to the address printed on the reverse side (no postage required).

**Personal details**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Email \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_

**Would you like to us to include you on the mailing list to receive future information about the project?**

Yes No

**Would you like us to send you copies of the fact sheets detailing each of the concept designs for the M1 Upgrade from Nerang to Varsity Lakes?**

Yes No

**Your views about the Pacific Motorway Upgrade Nerang-Tugun**

Do you have any comments in relation to the Planning Study?

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# Pacific Motorway Upgrade Stage 1 Nerang - Varsity Lakes

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Milton BC QLD 4064

No stamp required if  
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**Tell us what you think**

How effectively is Main Roads communicating with you?

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