

Change of pace for highway

One year after the opening of the Tugun Bypass, planning and design is underway for a series of improvements on southern sections of the Gold Coast Highway that will deliver benefits to the local communities between Tugun and Coolangatta.

Since the bypass opened in June 2008, it has carried more than 14 million vehicles, reducing traffic on the Gold Coast Highway through Tugun by more than 50 per cent, with heavy vehicle numbers down by 70 per cent.

First step....In response to feedback already received from the community, improvement works are proposed for the old Stewart Road intersection (now known as Tugun–Currumbin Road).

A major change at this intersection will be the construction of a new southbound right turn/u-turn lane from the Gold Coast Highway to Tugun–Currumbin Road.

These works are designed to rebalance traffic flows, while still providing a safe road environment for all road users.

Coming soon....Plans are also underway for a new intersection north of the Bilinga overpass that will

provide northbound traffic with a right turn lane direct to Coolangatta Road from the old Pacific Highway Tweed bypass.

Design drawings for this project will be available for public viewing and comment in late 2009/early 2010.

In the future....Long term planning is also underway with the *Cross Border Traffic Master Plan* soon to be commissioned.

In working with Tweed Shire and Gold Coast City Councils, NSW Roads and Traffic Authority and Gold Coast Airport Ltd, the department is investigating a series of changes to traffic arrangements that will improve traffic flow and provide better route options for the local community.

The study will review development demographics and traffic projections in order to guide the next steps in planning. Findings from this technical study are expected in the second half of 2010.

Proposed Works Tugun–Currumbin Road Intersection

- » A new right turn/u-turn lane from the Gold Coast Highway to Tugun–Currumbin Road will provide a more direct connection for southbound road users to the Pacific Motorway, Tugun Bypass and surrounding western suburbs.
- » Traffic signal coordination will be adjusted to reflect changes in traffic flows.
- » Local traffic will benefit from reduced delays and traffic queuing at the Toolona Street intersection.
- » To make way for on-road cycle lanes, traffic lanes in some locations will be reduced from three to two lanes. Detailed traffic modelling has shown that traffic will still flow at an acceptable level because of the adjusted traffic signal coordination and the reduced traffic volumes.
- » Road resurfacing between Wagawn Street and Toolona Street will provide a safer, longer-lasting and more comfortable road surface.
- » Traffic signals at the Tugun–Currumbin Road intersection will be upgraded to brighter LED lanterns, saving on energy and maintenance costs.
- » New line marking, signage and on-road cycle lanes from Tugun to Bilinga.
- » Speed will be reduced from 80 km/h to 70 km/h between Wagawn Street and Terminal Drive to reflect a shared urban road environment.



For further information, or to provide comments, contact the Department of Transport and Main Roads on:
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Tugun-Currumbin Road Intersection

- » Preliminary works : end 2009
- » Construction : early 2010
- » Completion : mid 2010

MainRoads

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Gold Coast Highway

Tugun-Currumbin Road (Stewart Road) Intersection

