

# In and Around Fitzroy

Welcome to the second edition of Local Links for 2012, our locally focused newsletter that is aimed at providing communities in central Queensland with the latest information on road projects and activities across the Fitzroy Region.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads has had a fantastic start to 2012, kicking off with our incredible reconstruction works program as part of Operation Queenslander.

To date this year the department has spent more than \$45 million on reconstructing the Capricorn Highway between Rockhampton and Emerald.

Work is still underway on the Bruce Highway at various locations. In the coming months work will also begin on the Dawson Highway and Carnarvon Highway.

## Overtaking lanes for Capricorn Highway

Five new overtaking lanes on the Capricorn Highway, between Rockhampton and Emerald, will be delivered as part of the \$100 million Operation Queensland reconstruction works currently underway.

The new overtaking lane sites are:

- west of Kabra, with one in both directions stretching 1.35 kilometres
- one east of Gogango, stretching for 1.5 kilometres
- one west of Dingo, also 1.5 kilometres in length
- one at Bluff.

The new overtaking lanes, to be constructed at a cost of \$14.5 million will benefit tourists, industry and locals living in communities including Stanwell, Gogango, Blackwater, Duaringa, Bluff and Emerald.

Constructing the new overtaking lanes at the same time as Operation Queenslander reconstruction works will minimise disruptions to motorists and deliver financial efficiency for the community.

Operation Queenslander is the largest reconstruction effort in Queensland's history – rebuilding communities, fixing infrastructure and restoring regional economies.

A \$735,000 upgrade of the O'Shannesy Street intersection with the Capricorn Highway will also be delivered as part of the Safer Roads Sooner program,

to improve access and safety for motorists travelling into Gracemere.

All of these works are about improving safety and transport efficiency on the Capricorn Highway.

Transport and Main Roads would like to thank motorists for their ongoing patience and caution when driving through the roadworks as these important projects are delivered.

Funding for Operation Queenslander projects is being provided through the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA), a joint federal and state initiative.

Under NDRRA, the federal government provides 75 per cent of the funding, with 25 per cent from the state government.

## Dawson River Bridge replacement – Baralaba

The department has teamed up with Cockatoo Coal to deliver a new bridge over the Dawson River at Baralaba.

The department committed \$8 million toward the new bridge and road approaches, which have a total estimated cost of \$16 million, with Cockatoo Coal providing the remainder.

The new higher level two lane concrete bridge will be 4.2 metres higher than the existing low level, single lane structure. Work started in August 2011 on the new structure which will involve replacing the existing bridge and improved approaches on both sides.

The new higher level two lane concrete bridge will be 4.2 metres higher than the existing low level, single lane structure. Work started in August 2011 on the new structure which will involve replacing the existing bridge and improved approaches on both sides.

## Installation of traffic signals in Emerald

The installation of another set of traffic signals in Emerald started in February this year.

The signals will be located at the intersection of Clermont and Ruby Streets. These major roads connect east-west and north-south traffic through the heart of Emerald.

During construction, motorists can expect delays of up to 15 minutes. Works will be carried out during the day and night, and will involve:

- pavement repair works
- reconstruction of medians
- relocations of street lights
- installation of traffic signals.

The completion of the project will result in some minor traffic changes to the intersection including additional u-turn facilities and the removal of a number of car parking bays.

Works are expected to be completed by mid-2012, weather permitting.

## Yeppen North Project – Bruce Highway

In 2009, Transport and Main Roads commenced a \$500,000 planning project to improve safety and traffic flow between the Yeppen Roundabout and Port Curtis Road, at the southern entrance to Rockhampton.

The Yeppen North Project includes enhanced flood protection in addition to safety and traffic flow improvements.

The full scope of works to be delivered by the Yeppen North Project include:

- New slip lane for traffic entering Rockhampton from Gracemere, addressing congestion and delays at the roundabout.
- Speed reduction curves at all roundabout approaches to reduce the likelihood of accidents and heavy vehicle rollover.
- Expansion of the roundabout to two lanes between the Yeppen Bridge entry and Capricorn Highway exit to increase capacity and reduce travel times.
- A new 420 metre Yeppen Bridge downstream of the existing structure. The new two lane bridge will be dedicated to outbound traffic and will be approximately three metres higher than the existing Yeppen Lagoon Bridge.
- Both lanes of the existing bridge will be dedicated for inbound traffic.

- Upper Dawson Road and Jellicoe Street intersection upgraded to traffic signals and expanded to cater for oversize loads, cyclists and pedestrians.
- Jellicoe Street intersection raised by more than two metres to provide improved flood immunity at southern entrance into Rockhampton.
- Reconfiguration of Port Curtis Road intersection to be left-in-left-out to directly address safety and visibility concerns at this location.

This \$85 million project (Yeppen North) will ultimately integrate with the Yeppen South Project which will raise the flood protection of the Bruce Highway between the Burnett Highway turnoff (3 kilometres south of Rockhampton) and the Yeppen Roundabout, reducing the impact of flooding on this vital route into Rockhampton from the south.

Construction company, Fulton Hogan has been announced as the successful contractor to construct the Yeppen North Project.

Site construction, including the new bridge, upgraded roundabout and intersections, is expected to commence in May 2012, weather permitting.



*Yeppen Lagoon Bridge*

### Contact us Rockhampton office

Visit: 31 Knight Street  
North Rockhampton Qld 4701  
Phone: 4931 1500  
Fax: 4927 5020  
Web: [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)

### Emerald office

Visit: 83 Esmond Street  
Emerald Qld 4720  
Phone: 4983 8700  
Fax: 4983 8722  
Web: [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)