

### A message from the Regional Director



As we all know the Mackay and Whitsunday area is rich in diversity, from coastal cities to the open landscape of the hinterlands. The Department of Transport and Main Roads is working with all levels of government and stakeholders to connect communities and provide a safe road system that will serve the state well into the future.

In Mackay/Whitsunday Region the department supports our community through directly employing 82 staff in our Mackay Office and 71 staff in RoadTek as well as creating local jobs with contractors.

As well as direct employment, the department is continuing to contribute to the economic growth of our region by the delivery of a \$360 million *Roads Implementation Program (RIP) 2008-09 to 2012-13*. Our current RIP outlines the roads projects and maintenance for Mackay, the Whitsundays, Bowen and the Central Queensland mining areas surrounding Moranbah from Nebo South to Middlemount and west to Clermont.

The Peak Downs Highway is a vital link between communities and mining industry and the grazing and farming industries that make up the Mackay/Whitsunday Region. The department is committed to spending over \$ 22 million on upgrading the Peak Downs Highway in this financial year.

By partnering with the community the department endeavours to achieve a balance with competing local, state and national transport infrastructure needs. Addressing public concerns and environmental impacts are important priorities. Main Roads works with councils and community members to deliver a wide range of road projects for the region.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads, Mackay/Whitsunday Region is continuing to deliver the huge program of road and bridge projects that will provide Mackay with a network to service current and future needs. If you would like to view a copy of the RIP or find out any other information about current projects, log onto [www.mainroads.qld.gov.au](http://www.mainroads.qld.gov.au) or ring 4951 8555.

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Regional Director  
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### Mackay-Bucasia Road

With the growth of the northern beaches over the past few years, Mackay Bucasia Road carries about 18,000 vehicles a day. The 10km stretch of road is the only arterial link between the northern beaches community and the city.

Construction of the rail overpass has been completed. The paving, sealing and asphaltting of the approaching roadway will begin soon.

Once the traffic has been diverted onto the new overpass completion of the stormwater drainage system can occur.

The duplication of the Mackay-Bucasia Road to four lanes between Phillip Street and Holts Road is scheduled to complete by May 2009.



## Forgan Bridge Replacement and Duplication Project

Work on the \$127.9 million replacement and duplication of the Forgan Bridge over the Pioneer River is progressing well.

Piling works are currently underway with 30 of the permanent pile liners being driven and concrete poured into 23 of these.

The Barnes Creek piling works started in February and are progressing well with 8 piles driven and concrete poured into 2.

During some of the earlier construction stages on the Forgan Bridge Project the historic shipwreck the Brinawarr was located.

Divers and a maritime archaeologist arrived to survey the discovery. Work did slow down during this time to allow the archaeologists enough time to properly assess the situation but was quickly up and running again by the middle of February.

The upgrade of the Kooyong intersection began during late March with some traffic changes being implemented.

Main Roads is committed to informing the community and has developed a regular e-newsletter which will have updated information about the project. To receive these e-newsletters, subscribe to [forganbridge@mainroads.qld.gov.au](mailto:forganbridge@mainroads.qld.gov.au)



*Placing deck units on the Forgan Bridge*



*Construction on span sixteen of the bridge*



*The Sydney Street Bridge in 1889*



*Damaged Sydney Street Bridge in 1920*

## Hospital Bridge at Pioneer River

The \$42.9million Hospital Bridge Replacement Project is now complete.

All 22 spans have been erected and 132 girders have been lifted into place with the final girders placed on March 3 2009.

A Family Open Day was held on 26 April to celebrate this historic opening.

Thousands of people throughout the Mackay and Whitsunday region gathered to watch the cutting of the ribbon to open the bridge, and spent the day enjoying the many stalls and displays. Traffic was diverted onto the bridge at the end of April.



## Joint Levee Road

The Joint Levee Road will run from Sams Road to the Kooyong intersection and once completed will improve safety, provide a flood mitigation levee bank and a dedicated heavy vehicle route to the Port that bypasses Malcomson Street and Evans Avenue.

The project is being constructed in three stages.

**Stage 1:** Forming of the first embankment which required a 4 month settlement period.

**Stage 2:** Forming of 2nd embankment which will also require a 4 month settlement period.

**Stage 3:** Construction of the roadway.



**Contact** For more information on Mackay/Whitsunday you can:

- » call the Mackay district office on +61 7 4951 8555
- » email [mackay.office@mainroads.qld.gov.au](mailto:mackay.office@mainroads.qld.gov.au)
- » or visit our website [www.mainroads.qld.gov.au](http://www.mainroads.qld.gov.au)

Construction of a culvert

End structures to the culverts