

A message from the Regional Director



Dennis Tennant
Regional Director
(North Coast)

Welcome to the November 2008 edition of Main Roads Local Links newsletter – aimed at providing you up-to-date information on activities within the North Coast Region.

The region continues to work hard to deliver a program worth \$1.9 billion to boost road infrastructure for the local community.

Some key project milestones were delivered over the past few months including:

- » completion of the Sunshine Motorway Upgrade between Sippy Downs Drive and Kawana Way
- » commissioning of the new traffic signals at the Maroochydore Road Interchange
- » opening of the upgraded original Maroochy Bridge
- » public displays for the Sunshine Motorway/Emu Mountain Road Planning Upgrade Study
- » the launch of two new Traffic Response Units on the Sunshine Coast.

More major milestones will be reached over the next six months as Main Roads wraps up further construction projects in the region.

For more information about projects within the North Coast Region, visit Main Roads' website www.mainroads.qld.gov.au.



North Coast construction activities

The North Coast Region is on track with the delivery of a number of major road construction projects including:

- » Sunshine Motorway Upgrade
 - Maroochydore Road to David Low Way
 - Pacific Paradise Bypass
- » Maroochydore Road Upgrade
- » Caloundra Road Upgrade
- » Caloundra-Mooloolaba Road Construction
- » Bruce Highway Upgrade (Uhlmann Road to Caboolture)

Recent North Coast achievements

Sunshine Motorway Projects

Sippy Downs Drive to Kawana Way

- » The new Dixon/Claymore Road Interchange was officially opened by Premier Anna Bligh and Main Roads Minister Warren Pitt on 24 July 2008.
- » The new interchange completed the \$66 million upgrade of the Sunshine Motorway between Sippy Downs Drive and Kawana Way.
- » The project has reduced congestion around the Sippy Downs educational precinct and connected the communities of Buderim and Sippy Downs.



Aerial view of construction on the Maroochydore Road Interchange



Premier Anna Bligh and Main Roads Minister Warren Pitt cutting the ribbon at the Dixon/Claymore Road Interchange opening

Maroochydore Road Interchange

- » Traffic signals at the new Maroochydore Road Interchange were switched on in early October 2008, enhancing safety for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists.
- » The new interchange was completely redesigned to improve road safety and handle traffic growth into the future.
- » The new interchange is part of the \$104 million Sunshine Motorway upgrade between Maroochydore Road and David Low Way.
- » The entire project is expected to be finished by the end of 2008.



Recent North Coast achievements

Maroochy Bridge

- » The new Maroochy Bridge was officially opened by Main Roads Minister Warren Pitt on 8 December 2007.
- » Widening of the original bridge was finished in August 2008, four months ahead of schedule.
- » Currently, the bridge operates with two lanes in each direction - one lane for through traffic and one lane servicing Bradman Avenue.
- » By the end of this year, the bridge will operate with three lanes in each direction – two lanes for through traffic and one lane servicing Bradman Avenue.
- » The new bridge also includes a four metre shared pedestrian/cycle path, adding to active transport facilities on the Sunshine Coast.



Aerial view of the newly completed Maroochy Bridge

Sunshine Motorway/Emu Mountain Road Upgrade Planning Study

- » The planning study was initiated in 2006, to investigate how the Sunshine Motorway and Emu Mountain Road, from the Pacific Paradise Interchange to Eumundi-Noosa Road, should be upgraded for the future.
- » In July 2008, Main Roads presented a proposed planning option to the local community for the future upgrade.
- » The proposed option includes planning for possible future interchanges at the Yandina - Coolum Road, Murdering Creek Road and Peregian Springs Drive to provide safer and more efficient access to the growing residential and commercial centres around Coolum and Peregian. Provision has been made for further expansion of the motorway, as well as for possible future interchanges at West Coolum Road and at Coolum Ridges.
- » All feedback received from the community together with the results of further engineering, traffic and environmental studies will be assessed to complete the planning study report.

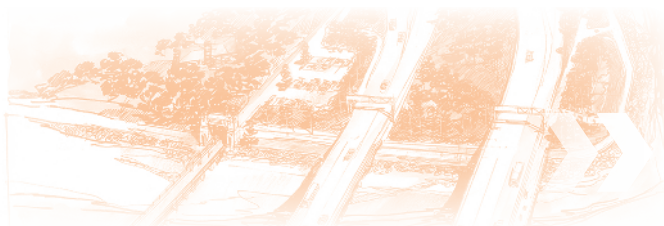
Traffic Response Units (TRUs)

- » In July 2008, Main Roads' North Coast Region deployed two new TRUs on the Sunshine Coast to effectively manage off-road incidents in the region.
- » The new, highly visible TRUs allow quick clearance of incidents and provide minor breakdown services to motorists.
- » The four-wheel-drives operate seven days a week during peak periods and are initially patrolling the Sunshine Motorway and Bruce Highway from Deception Bay to Cooroy.



North Coast Region

- » The North Coast Region is 10 620 square kilometres, extending along the coast from Noosa to Redcliffe and from Caboolture to west of Esk.
- » This region is one of the fastest-growing areas in Queensland. Roads in the area play a vital role in supporting the local population and economy. The area's road network provides essential links for freight movements and tourism. Population growth has increased public expectations for upgraded road infrastructure especially as volumes of heavy vehicles increase in response to freight transport demand.
- » The Roads Implementation Program 2008-09 to 2012-13, outlines what Main Roads is doing in the North Coast Region of Queensland, now and in the future.
- » The State Government is investing around \$1.5 billion in the region (including over \$14 million in Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme projects), and the Federal Government is contributing over \$428 million.



Contact

Main Roads is committed to keeping the North Coast community informed. If you would like any further information, please contact us.

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