

A message from the Regional Director



Dennis Tennant
Regional Director
(North Coast)

Happy New Year and welcome to the first edition of Local Links for 2009. It is the time of year in which we reflect on past achievements and begin to focus on the year ahead.

The Department of Main Roads worked hard in 2008 to deliver numerous road infrastructure projects in the North Coast Region. Significant achievements included:

- » the opening of the Sunshine Motorway upgrades at both Sippy Downs and Maroochydore
- » commissioning of the Maroochydore Road upgrade between the Bruce Highway and Kunda Park
- » the launch of two new Traffic Response Units in the North Coast Region
- » public displays for the Sunshine Motorway/Emu Mountain Road planning study between the Pacific Paradise Interchange and Eumundi-Noosa Road
- » public displays for the Multi-Modal Transport Corridor.

This year will be no different, with construction crews applying the final touches to a number of major projects, including:

- » the Pacific Paradise Bypass – early 2009
- » the Caloundra Road upgrade between the Bruce Highway and Pierce Avenue – early 2009
- » the new Caloundra-Mooloolaba Road between Caloundra Road and Creekside Boulevard – early 2009
- » the Bruce Highway upgrade between Uhlmann Road and Caboolture – mid 2009.

Main Roads is committed to keeping the North Coast community informed on progress of these projects. In the meantime, if you have any enquiries, I encourage you to contact the Sunshine Coast District or Moreton District Offices.

North Coast major construction updates

Sunshine Motorway Upgrade Project:

Maroochydore Road to David Low Way

The \$104 million Sunshine Motorway upgrade between Maroochydore Road and David Low Way was completed in December last year providing significantly improved safety for motorists on the Sunshine Coast.

Delivery of the project on time was the culmination of four years of planning and construction designed to provide a high quality transport link between Maroochydore Road and David Low Way at Pacific Paradise.

Removal of congestion from this section of the motorway was a great relief to motorists who were very patient during the construction period. By obeying the many signs and directions, motorists assisted the project team in maintaining a safe environment for both road users and roadworkers.

Early benefits of the upgrade were realised with the opening of the new southbound

bridge over the Maroochy River in December 2007, which eased congestion for north shore traffic travelling south in the morning peak.

Completion of the widening of the existing northbound bridge in August 2008 and opening of the Maroochydore Road Interchange in October 2008, also contributed to the project's success.

Realising the full capacity of the motorway has provided a safer and more efficient ride up and down the coast as well as providing a stimulus for the continued development of the region.

Sunshine Motorway Upgrade Project:

Pacific Paradise Bypass

Since construction commenced just over 12 months ago, the Sunshine Motorway at Pacific Paradise has been transformed by the duplication of the motorway over David Low Way and the construction of the Pacific Paradise Bypass.

This \$85 million project involves:

- » constructing a new interchange on the motorway, north of David Low Way
- » constructing a northern bypass of Pacific Paradise
- » removing the u-turn facility at the old Toll Plaza
- » duplicating a 2km section of the motorway from David Low Way to the new Pacific Paradise Interchange
- » constructing a new signalised intersection connecting the Pacific Paradise Bypass with the Sunshine Coast Regional Council's new airport access road and David Low Way.

As well as providing better facilities for traffic, this project will reduce congestion on David Low Way through Pacific Paradise, improve access to the Sunshine Coast Airport and help meet the ongoing demands of a growing population.

October 2008 saw the completion of two new bridges over David Low Way and work on the approaches was finished in December 2008 to allow the duplicated motorway to be opened to traffic before Christmas.

To the north, work is well advanced with the erection of girders on the five span bridge over the motorway which will allow an estimated 10 000 vehicles per day to bypass the centre of Pacific Paradise.

The remaining work, expected to be completed early this year, includes completion of bridge decks, asphalt pavements, landscaping and installation of signs, guardrail and lighting.

Main Roads also completed construction of a new signalised intersection at the junction of Council's new airport access road and the realigned David Low Way in December 2008. The signalised intersection will ensure that traffic will be able to exit the Sunshine Coast Airport without the delay previously experienced at Friendship Avenue.

The connection of David Low Way to the Pacific Paradise Bypass early this year will further enhance access to the airport from Maroochydore and Noosa Heads.

Maroochydore Road Upgrade

Bruce Highway to Kunda Park

The \$110 million upgrade of Maroochydore Road from the Bruce Highway to Kunda Park was completed and opened to traffic in December 2008.

Stage One of the upgrade project, Martins Creek to Pike Street, was opened to traffic in December 2006.

Work on Stage Two of the project, began in June 2006 and included the construction of new bridges over Eudlo Creek, an overpass at Eudlo Flats Road and a grade-separated interchange at Sandalwood and Stark lanes.

The upgrade of Maroochydore Road to a divided carriageway with wire-rope median barriers will improve safety and flood immunity and reduce congestion for the Sunshine Coast.

Completion of this final section now means that Maroochydore Road is a high-standard four-lane road from Maroochydore to the Bruce Highway which provides a more efficient, smoother and safer road network to support the Sunshine Coast's rapidly growing population.

Old Maroochydore Road will remain as a service road for local traffic and connect to the new road at the Pike Street and Sandalwood Lane intersection.



Main Roads Local Links

Caloundra Road Upgrade

Bruce Highway to Pierce Avenue

This \$80 million project will duplicate a 4.3km stretch of Caloundra Road between the Bruce Highway and Piece Avenue from two to four lanes.

Caloundra Road is the major east-west corridor connecting the Bruce Highway and the Caloundra central business district.

The Caloundra Road upgrade will link to existing and future road projects in the region, including the Multi-Modal Transport Corridor (MMTC).

This project will provide the following benefits:

- » the construction of two new carriageways (two lanes each way) between the Bruce Highway and Racecourse Road
 - » the existing Caloundra Road will become southern and northern service roads joined across the new four lanes by a new road overbridge
 - » duplication of the existing Caloundra Road between Racecourse Road and Westaway Road
 - » a new interchange at Racecourse Road
 - » a roundabout at the intersection with the proposed Multi-Modal Transport Corridor (Caloundra – Mooloolaba Road)
 - » access to Caloundra Road from Jordan Street, Sattler Road and Westaway Road will be via the northern service road to the Racecourse Road Interchange
 - » a new road will be constructed to link the Racecourse Road Interchange with Sattler Road that will be known as 'Honey Farm Road' above and below ground fauna crossings.
- Construction commenced in October 2006, with the entire project scheduled for completion early this year, weather permitting



Bruce Highway Upgrade

Uhlmann Road to Caboolture

Work to widen the Bruce Highway between Uhlmann Road and Caboolture is progressing well and is expected to be finished by mid 2009, weather permitting.

The \$183 million federally-funded project will upgrade this section of the highway to a high standard six-lane motorway and includes:

- » widening of the Captain Whish Bridges over the Caboolture River from two to four lanes
- » major upgrading to the Caboolture-Bribie Island Road Interchange
- » upgrading the highway access at the Buchanan Road Interchange, the Uhlmann Road Interchange and at the BP service centres.

The Caboolture Bypass Interchange with the Bruce Highway was completed in late 2007 to coincide with the opening of the bypass.

The Bruce Highway upgrade will improve transport efficiency, reduce congestion, improve safety and allow for continued growth in the South East corner.

Main Roads Local Links

Caloundra-Mooloolaba Road Construction

Caloundra Road to Creekside Boulevard

The Caloundra-Mooloolaba Road will be a new motorway standard road, approximately 15km long, connecting Caloundra Road (near Corbould Park) in the south, to Mooloolaba at the Mooloolah River Interchange.

The Caloundra-Mooloolaba Road is part of the integrated transport network for the Sunshine Coast. It will support increasing tourism, commerce and residential growth. Other major related initiatives include:

- » Multi Modal Transport Corridor (MMTC): a road and future public transport corridor that will link Caloundra Road, near Corbould Park, with the Sunshine Motorway at the Mooloolah River Interchange. This corridor will serve vehicle,

public transport, pedestrian and cycle needs. The Caloundra-Mooloolaba Road is located within this corridor.

- » CAMCOS corridor: the CAMCOS corridor provides for a future heavy rail link between Beerwah and Maroochydore Airport. North of Creekside Boulevard, it is included within the MMTC. South of Creekside Boulevard the CAMCOS corridor deviates to the east.
- » Kawana Way: is a new road that connects the Sunshine Motorway to Kawana and will extend down to Creekside Boulevard, as development occurs. It is linked to Nicklin Way at Kawana Island Boulevard, Main Drive, Lake Kawana Boulevard and, ultimately, Creekside Boulevard - Erang Street.
- » SM2032 Study (Sunshine Motorway): this study sought to

identify improvements needed to the Sunshine Motorway to cater for expected traffic demand by the year 2032.

The road will be planned, designed and constructed in sections as transport demands are prioritised.

The southern section from Caloundra Road to Creekside Boulevard is currently under construction and provides for a new 5km two lane road.

The project will cost \$75 million and will provide the following benefits:

- » construction of a new two lane road from Caloundra Road to Creekside Boulevard
- » provision for future upgrading to six lanes
- » new road fits within the Multi Modal Transport Corridor (MMTC)
- » increase road capacity to reduce congestion on Nicklin Way and cater for future growth
- » provide an alternate route to/from locations in the southern part of the coast
- » improve access to Kawana Town Centre
- » improve safety for motorists with divided carriageway
- » ultimately reduce travel time between Caloundra and Mooloolaba.

Construction on this section commenced in late 2006 and is expected to be completed in early 2009, weather permitting.



Contact

If you would like any further information about any North Coast Region projects, you can:

- » Phone: 5482 0333
- » Fax: 5482 0465
- » Write: PO Box 183, Gympie Qld 4570

- » sunshinecoast.office@mainroads.qld.gov.au (for projects in the Sunshine Coast Regional Council)

moreton.office@mainroads.qld.gov.au (for projects in the Moreton Bay and Somerset Regional Councils)