

A message from the Regional Director



Welcome to our final edition of Local Links for 2009. This year has been an extremely busy one for North Coast Region with many important and challenging projects.

Significant achievements in the past few months include:

- » sod turning on Section B of the Bruce Highway upgrade (Cooroy to Curra)
- » completion of the D'Aguilar Highway upgrade
- » the Caboolture-Bribie Island Road upgrade between Aerodrome Road and Pasturage Road, with Pasturage Road now re-opened to traffic
- » continuation of the Bruce Highway upgrade (Uhlmann Road to Caboolture), due for completion by late October
- » completion of the northern intersection ramp works on Steve Irwin Way
- » completion of the Brisbane Valley Highway upgrade (south of Fernvale).

The region has seen many changes, with more to occur over the coming months. The Moreton Office at James Street, Caboolture opened earlier this year with Derek Deane as District Director. We now have a stronger presence on the Sunshine Coast with the opening of the new office at Carnaby Street, Maroochydore. The office houses both the Department of Transport and Main Roads and the Queensland Police Service. It was officially opened on 26 August by Neil Roberts MP, Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services, Police Commissioner Bob Atkinson and the department's Acting Chief Operations Officer Eddie Peters.



As we continue to transition, we will face new challenges and opportunities. It is essential during this time that we remain focused, continue to deliver our program and maintain our outstanding performance record.

Dennis Tennant
Regional Director (North Coast)

North Coast major construction updates

Caboolture-Bribie Island Road upgrade (Aerodrome Road to Pasturage Road)

The \$37.9 million Caboolture-Bribie Island Road upgrade, from Aerodrome Road to Pasturage Road, is well underway and, when completed, will improve safety and traffic flow for the growing population. Regional Director Dennis Tennant led a site tour of the project for Premier Anna Bligh and State Member for Pumicestone Carryn Sullivan on 28 August.

Despite unprecedented wet weather earlier this year, the project is still on schedule to be completed by mid-2010. The upgrade will provide a median-divided four-lane road with additional stand-up lanes, as well as traffic signals at intersections. Work involves:

- » widening a 1.6km section of Caboolture-Bribie Island Road to a median-divided four-lane road
- » replacing Aerodrome Road roundabout with a signalised intersection
- » installing traffic signals and upgrading access at Pasturage Road intersection
- » adding extra turn lanes at Aerodrome Road and Pasturage Road intersections
- » upgrading public transport facilities
- » providing wide road shoulders to improve safety for cyclists
- » providing separated pedestrian paths and signalised pedestrian crossings to improve safety for pedestrians.



Work completed includes:

- » relocation of electricity, water and telephone services at the site
- » construction of 2m high noise barriers along the boundaries of nearby residences
- » upgrading drainage on Aerodrome Road to improve flood immunity
- » starting extensive earthworks to prepare for road construction works.

Did you know?

- » Approximately 60 000m³ of earthworks are underway - enough to fill more than 24 Olympic-size swimming pools.
- » Over 50 000 tonnes of asphalt, weighing an equivalent of more than 150 jumbo jets, will be used to upgrade intersections and widen Caboolture-Bribie Island Road.
- » Thousands of metres of drainage, totalling the length of more than 75 football fields, have been installed to improve flood immunity.
- » On top of the significant improvements for road users, this project has also benefited the employment sector with more than 200 direct and indirect jobs sustained over the life of the project.

North Coast major construction updates

Steve Irwin Way (Landsborough to Caloundra Road interchange)

The Department of Transport and Main Roads has allocated \$47.8 million for an upgrade of Steve Irwin Way between Landsborough and the Caloundra Road interchange. This project is expected to improve safety for road users, reduce congestion and cater for future traffic growth. To minimise the impact on motorists, residents and other road users, the project is being delivered in two stages.

Stage One - Mooloolah Connection Road to Caloundra Road interchange

Work started on Stage One in early 2009 and is expected to finish in mid-2010, weather permitting. This project will increase the road's capacity, and improve flood immunity and safety for road users. Work involves:

- » duplicating a 3.3km section of Steve Irwin Way from two to four lanes
- » realigning and signalising the Mooloolah Connection Road intersection
- » installing traffic signals at the Cemex Quarry and Mooloolah Cemetery
- » providing bus stops near Jowarra Park and Mooloolah Connection Road
- » upgrading an existing culvert near the Cemex Quarry to a 30m, two-span bridge.

Stage Two - Hardwood Road/Railway Street intersection to Mooloolah Connection Road

Design work for Stage Two is complete. Key features of this project include:

- » duplicating a 5.2km section of Steve Irwin Way from two to four lanes
- » installing traffic signals at the Hardwood Road/Railway Street and Caloundra Street intersections and at the entrance to Camp Koongamoon
- » realigning Old Caloundra Road to connect into Amigh Street
- » providing new bridge crossings in the vicinity of Ewen Maddock Dam.

Funding for construction of Stage Two will be considered as part of future reviews of the department's *Roads Implementation Program*.



North Coast major construction updates

Bruce Highway (Cooroy to Curra) upgrade

On 3 September, Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Anthony Albanese turned the first sod on the \$613 million Section B of the Bruce Highway (Cooroy to Curra) upgrade.

Major works on Section B, which covers Sankeys Road to Traveston Road, are about to begin. This project recently received \$488 million of vital funding from the federal government. This was boosted by \$125 million from the state.

This busy stretch of highway currently carries approximately 16 000 vehicles a day. This upgrade will ensure the highway can meet future demands of increasing volumes of traffic. Since the end of June 2009, significant preliminary work has been undertaken.

Along with the safety benefits that come with a superior dual-lane, divided highway, the new corridor will be built above the Mary River floodplain. The upgrade will also include construction of eight new bridges over creeks in the area.

The new corridor is located to the east of the existing Bruce Highway, resulting in minimal delays to road users while works are in progress. The upgrade is scheduled for completion in 2012.

Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Anthony Albanese (left) turns the first sod on the Bruce Highway upgrade (Section B)



Bruce Highway upgrade (Uhlmann Road to Caboolture)

The \$183 million upgrade to the Bruce Highway between Uhlmann Road and Caboolture started in December 2007 and is now almost complete.

Works on the 6km stretch of highway are progressing well with the southbound lanes expected to be open to traffic by October 2009, weather permitting.

The state and federal governments are committed to improving road infrastructure and safety for the growing south east Queensland population.

This project is the final stage of the commitment to upgrade the Bruce Highway from four to six lanes from the Gateway Motorway to Caboolture.

Work involves:

- » widening the Bruce Highway between Uhlmann Road and Caboolture from four to six lanes
- » a major upgrade of the Caboolture-Bribie Island Road interchange
- » provision of an anti-throw screen and dedicated pedestrian and cyclist facilities on the Caboolture-Bribie Island Road interchange, in addition to closed circuit cameras to monitor traffic flow
- » widening of the Captain Whish Bridge, over the Caboolture River, from two to four lanes in each direction
- » upgrading highway access at the Buchanan Road interchange, the Uhlmann Road interchange and the BP service centre
- » installation of wire rope barriers to reduce the potential for cross-median crashes.

As safety is the department's number one priority, works also include the installation of wire rope barriers along both sides of the road median from Boundary Road to Caboolture and widening the left-turn lane of the northbound off-ramp at the Deception Bay Road interchange.

Key benefits of the upgrade

- » Improved transport and road freight efficiency with a reduction in congestion.
- » Improved safety for all road users including motorists, pedestrians and cyclists.

North Coast major construction updates

Eumundi-Kenilworth Road (Archer Road to Belli Creek Crossing No 1)

Detailed design is now complete for the \$5 million project to rehabilitate and widen Eumundi-Kenilworth Road between Archer Road and Belli Creek Crossing No 1.

The upgrade includes improving the road alignment and reconstructing the road to meet current and future demands. Construction is scheduled to start in late 2009, weather permitting, and will involve:

- » reconstructing the road to 10m width incorporating two 3.5m wide lanes and 1.5m wide shoulders
- » realigning the road to help improve visibility
- » upgrading Fleetwood Road and Cherry Land intersections to allow safer turning movements.

The upgrade will improve safety and road conditions for the local community and road users, address deterioration of the pavement and reduce road surface maintenance costs.

Eumundi-Kenilworth Road (Belli Creek Crossing No 2)

Work to upgrade Belli Creek Crossing No 2 was completed in July 2009. This \$10.4 million project has improved road safety and capacity and involved:

- » replacing the existing timber bridge with a concrete structure
- » strengthening and widening the existing bridge approaches
- » improving Buckby Road, Browns Road and Lockes Lane intersections.



D'Aguilar Highway upgrade

A \$6.3 million upgrade of the D'Aguilar Highway between Mary Smokes Road and Arnolds Road North is now complete with more than 6 400 motorists a day benefiting from the works.

The D'Aguilar Highway is an important arterial road link connecting the Moreton Bay, Somerset and South Burnett regions with heavy vehicles making up approximately 17% of traffic on the highway between Caboolture and Kilcoy. Nearly \$100 million has been spent on improvements to this section of highway.

Work between Mary Smokes Road and Arnolds Road North included upgrading of the road surface, realigning the Villeneuve Road intersection, and widening the road to provide two 3.5m lanes with 2m shoulders on each side.

In addition to improving freight efficiency, the upgrade has delivered other important benefits for the region's economy, with an average of 59 direct and indirect jobs sustained throughout the project.



North Coast Q150 update

New names revealed for North Coast bridges

As part of the state's 150th birthday celebrations, Main Roads Minister Craig Wallace revealed the new names of four bridges in North Coast Region this month.

The bridge names were decided by a panel of local community representatives from nominations sent in by the public to the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

Mr Wallace said he was honoured to have the opportunity to recognise the people and history that make up the great state of Queensland.

- » Six Mile Creek Bridge on Beerburrum Road at Elimbah will now be named the Hammond Bridge.
- » Belli Creek Crossing No 2 on Eumundi-Kenilworth Road will be the Murrays Flat Crossing.
- » The East Eudlo Creek Crossing on Maroochydore Road will be named the Hungerford Bridge.
- » Eudlo Creek Crossing on Maroochydore Road will retain this name because of its cultural heritage significance.

Mr Wallace said it was important to recognise those who helped shape the development of the community.

'The Hammond, Murray and Hungerford families are important to the Moreton and Sunshine Coast communities and it is only fitting to highlight their contributions in this way', he said.

Mr Wallace said the state's 150th birthday was an important milestone for all Queenslanders and the department wanted to involve the community in the celebrations as much as possible.

'The Q150 bridge naming festivities highlight the integral role that roads and bridges play in building the state's prosperity and connecting Queenslanders', he said.

This year marked the 150th anniversary of Queensland's separation from New South Wales as a colony, and celebrations running throughout the year would express the vision 'reflect our past, imagine our future'.



Six Mile Creek Bridge on Beerburrum Road at Elimbah will now be known as Hammond Bridge

Contact

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

- » phone the office on 5482 0333
- » send a fax to 5482 0465
- » send an email to -

sunshinecoast.office@transportandmainroads.qld.gov.au (for projects in the area of Sunshine Coast Regional Council) or

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