Project Overview

The Department of Transport and Main Roads has finalised the preferred alignment for the planned Bruce Highway – Cairns Southern Access Corridor – Stage 3 – Edmonton to Gordonvale project.

The Australian Government has committed up to $384.8 million towards the $481 million project, with the Queensland Government committing up to $96.2 million.

Funding has been committed by the Australian and Queensland Governments as part of the $8.5 billion 10-year Bruce Highway Upgrade Program.

The project will deliver long-term improvements to traffic flow and road safety south of Cairns.

The Edmonton to Gordonvale project is consistent with the 2010 Cairns Bruce Highway Master Plan and will be an extension of work already done to manage urban congestion on Cairns’ southern corridor over 30 years. An estimated 40,000 motorists will use the new southern access into Cairns each day.

The master plan aims to create a total transport solution that will meet the needs of residents and freight in coming decades.

The Stage 3 duplication will:

- reduce congestion
- reduce highway travel time
- improve road safety
- improve road access.
**Project Scope**

Stage 3 will run south from Collinson Creek in Edmonton to the east of the existing highway as far as the vicinity of Wrights Creek. The rail line will be moved to the east.

The new alignment then duplicates the existing highway on the western side, creating two extra lanes as far as Gordonvale.

It will incorporate the existing four lane section at Meringa, and in the Maher Road area it will involve moving the existing rail line to the east.

There are currently a number of intersections and direct accesses on the existing highway. The new alignment will either partially or fully close most of these to increase road safety and improve traffic flow. Service roads will be used to re-direct traffic to safer access points, including using the existing Bruce Highway as a service road between Petersen Road and Wrights Creek.

The 10km planned highway duplication is an extension of existing completed works and will extend the four lane highway south to Gordonvale.

Funding for the work is committed beyond 2018-19.

**Map**

A detailed map of the Stage 3 duplication can be found at the department’s webpage by searching for Bruce Highway – Cairns Southern Access Corridor – Stage 3 – Edmonton to Gordonvale.


**For more information**

If you need further information about the project, or would like to be added to the project mailing list, please contact the project team via:

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