Aurukun Community Works update

Aurukun is located on the north-west coast of Cape York, 178km by road south of Weipa.

Aurukun is one of the larger communities of the Cape with a population of approximately 1,200.

The Shire of Aurukun includes much of the traditional country of the Wik, Wik Way and Kugu people.

The length of the Aurukun Road from the Peninsula Developmental Road turnoff through to the Aurukun community is 106.38km.

Access to the community can be affected during November – April each year by the effects of the wet season.

Funding has been allocated from the CIMA Works program for roadworks on the Aurukun Road.

Prior to the start of this project, sealed sections of the road totalled 34.29km.

The CYRP-funded project is being delivered by Aurukun Shire Council. The aim of the project is to seal the highest priority sections. Some improvements are also being made to the road’s geometry and drainage.

In September 2016, 8.8km of the Aurukun Road was sealed. This brings the total amount of seal to 43.09km (approximately 40.5 per cent of the road). A further 6.3km is planned to be sealed in November 2016, weather permitting.

The photos show what a difference a few months can make for the people of Aurukun.

Further information

For Cape York Region Package updates and enquiries:

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*Free call from anywhere in Australia, call charges apply for mobile phones and payphone.

A fact sheet about the CYRP Community Works is available via: http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Projects/Name/C/Cape-York-Region-Package-Peninsula-Developmental-Road

Australian Government
BUILDING OUR FUTURE
Pormpuraaw Community Works

Pormpuraaw is located on the west coast of Cape York, about 580km south west of Weipa. It is the home of the Thaayoorre, Wik, Bakanh and Yir Yoront people. The Strathgordon Road is 215.92km in length from the Peninsula Developmental Road turnoff through to the Pormpuraaw community. Some 16.74km of the road is sealed*.

Access to the community is affected during November – April each year by the effects of the wet season. The work is expected to be finished in December 2016, weather permitting.

Funding from the Cape Indigenous Mayors Alliance (CIMA) Works program is being used to upgrade Strathgordon Road. The project involves raising the level of the road, where required. New concrete floodways and culverts are being installed in five locations. This project will assist in reducing the effects of the wet season on the road. This is important for the Pormpuraaw community, who rely on the road to access regional centres, and much needed supplies.

The work is being carried out by Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council (PASC).

The project involves raising the level of the road, where required. New concrete floodways and culverts are being installed in five locations. This project will assist in reducing the effects of the wet season on the road. This is important for the Pormpuraaw community, who rely on the road to access regional centres, and much needed supplies.

The work is expected to be finished in December 2016, weather permitting.

The Pormpuraaw work crew are playing a key part in the successful delivery of the project. Five out of 11 people working on the road crew are Indigenous participants and locals.

Ralph Kendall Senior

Ralph Kendall Senior was born in Pormpuraaw. He can remember when Strathgordon Road was a two-wheeled dirt track. This year marks the 21st consecutive dry season that Ralph has worked with the PASC road crew.

Ralph is competent in operating a range of equipment. This includes the grader, backhoe, roller, loader, skidsteer, excavator and water truck. He achieved these competencies through on-site training with the Department of Transport and Main Roads former Remote Communities Services Unit.

During the wet season Ralph works for the PASC. He is the first on board to carry out the initial steps to re-open the road.

Antonio Holroyd

Twenty-six year old Antonio Holroyd has always pursued regular employment in Pormpuraaw. Previously, Antonio worked on the Community Development Employment Projects/Jobfind program. In 2015, Antonio started work with the PASC road crew, paving the streets. While working with the pavers and concreters this year (2016), Antonio has obtained on-the-job skills in safely laying pavers, formwork, basic surveying, concreting, steelfixing, measurement and calculations, and traffic signage installation.

To see it upgraded and be part of the construction working for the community, it’s meant I can be a good role model for my children and support my family.” Ralph

“I always wanted to work with the road crew. I am happy now I can better support my family.” Antonio