

# Cape York Region Package: Peninsula Developmental Road

Indigenous opportunities

October 2015

## About the project

The Australian Government committed \$208.4 million to the Cape York Region Package from 2013-14 to 2018-19, with the Queensland Government contributing \$52.1 million.

The package will upgrade infrastructure including significant works on the Peninsula Developmental Road. These works will improve accessibility to Cape York, support the growth of the local industry and secondary economies and strengthen local and Indigenous communities.

It is expected that \$200 million from the available funding will be allocated to the Peninsula Developmental Road, which is the main transport link within the Cape York Peninsula.

## How is the Department of Transport and Main Roads helping provide business, employment and training opportunities for Indigenous peoples?

Transport and Main Roads is committed to providing employment and training opportunities for Indigenous peoples and businesses while building capability on Cape York.

The department has selected a range of incentives in the Mein Deviation contract recognising that effort is required to either engage with businesses that train Indigenous employees or adopt programs that contribute to the training and upskilling of Indigenous employees.

These plans and their success will be monitored closely and assessed against set incentive targets.

The successful tender for the Mein Deviation contract has committed to allocating more than 6000 hours Indigenous training as well as funding for identified opportunities for Indigenous businesses (plant hire). Both of these targets are well above the minimum required under the Queensland Government Building and Construction Training Policy.

This equates to eight new Indigenous trainees and business opportunities for the hire of **nine** items of plant equipment. In addition, there are Indigenous employment and business opportunities associated with other sealing projects that will be delivered in 2015.

## What has Transport and Main Roads done to ensure opportunities are available to the Indigenous communities and businesses?

Transport and Main Roads invited two separate Expressions of Interest before the Mein Deviation tender was called in early 2015.

The first Expression of Interest invited submissions from Indigenous owned businesses who wished to participate in providing services or engaging in partnership with major contractors.

These businesses needed to register on the Black Business Finder for consideration. The second Expression of Interest invited submissions from training providers who could offer services to the Principal Contractor to assist in maximising Indigenous employment and training. These companies needed to be registered training organisations for consideration.

The names of those submitting an Expression of Interest were provided to the invited short listed tenderers with a clear encouragement to engage with groups which could assist in meeting the aspirations of the Indigenous objectives.



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Transport and Main Roads was pleased with the level of response to the Expressions of Interest. Submissions from additional interested parties will still be accepted for current and future projects.

## How will these works assist Indigenous communities?

Transport and Main Roads has a long history of respecting, engaging with and providing opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. As part of the Cape York Region Package the department is sealing the remaining sections of the Endeavour Valley Road to Hope Vale with \$10 million allocated to the project over four years.

These works are being conducted with RoadTek as the Principal contractor and Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council as the nominated subcontractor, with the goal of providing the council with sufficient experience and upskilling to gain a level of prequalification for roadworks over four years.

This demonstrates Transport and Main Roads commitment to actively building capacity on Cape York with the ultimate objective of the council becoming prequalified and, in the future, being able to bid for road maintenance work on state roads in the Cape. Transport and Main Roads is also involved in a number of local Indigenous council areas to support staff in training and delivery of projects, particularly through its Aboriginal and Torres Straits Islander Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme. As part of the Cape York Region Package, \$50.5m is committed to Aboriginal Local Government Area councils for community projects.

### Further information

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