Bruce Highway Upgrade Program

Girders in place for the new Tinana Overpass, near Maryborough (Source: Photo courtesy of Georgiou Group, May 2017). Program update July 2017

The Bruce Highway is Queensland's major north-south freight and commuter corridor, connecting Brisbane to Cairns over a length of 1,677 km.

The Australian and Queensland Governments have committed to a ten-year (2013-14 to 2022-23), \$8.5 billion program of works to upgrade the Bruce Highway, with a focus on improving safety, flood resilience and capacity. The Australian Government has committed \$6.7 billion and the Queensland Government has committed \$1.8 billion to this vitally important program of works.

The program commenced in mid-2013 and is the largest program of roadworks currently underway in Queensland.

Program status

The program is now entering its fifth year of delivery with:

- 240 projects completed
- 108 projects in the design phase or under-construction
- 31 projects in the planning phase.

More projects are regularly being added to the program's scope of works as budget allows, delivering greater benefits for Queensland motorists and businesses.

Type of projects being delivered

Projects include major capital investment projects as well as smaller improvement projects that have been combined for more efficient delivery:

- Safety upgrades improving the overall safety of the highway by installing roadside barriers, upgrading intersections, widening pavements and road shoulders and installing wide centre line treatments and audio tactile line marking
- Overtaking lanes new overtaking lanes to allow more, safer opportunities for overtaking
- **Black spots** installing new or updated traffic signals, provision of protected right-hand turn facilities, shoulder sealing, road delineation and removal and/or shielding of roadside hazards at known black spots
- **Rest areas/Stopping places** installing new rest areas where motorists can stop their vehicles to rest and revive before continuing on their journey.

Major projects status

The tables over the page list the confirmed key capital investment projects that form part of the Bruce Highway Upgrade Program.

Numerous other smaller projects also form part of the program but are not listed here. Projects are listed in order from Cairns to Brisbane (Pine River).



Australian Government





Completed projects

Project	Location	Indicative total cost	Completed
Cairns Southern Access – Stage 1^	Cairns	\$150 million	May 2014
Arnot Creek Bridge*	Cardwell	\$10 million	Feb 2017
Bruce Highway (Vantassal to Cluden)*	Townsville	\$153 million	Jul 2015
Townsville Ring Road – Stage 4*	Townsville	\$200 million	Dec 2016
Sandy Corner to Collinsons Lagoon Upgrade*	Ayr	\$50 million	Feb 2015
Burdekin Road Safety Audit Outcome [‡]	Burdekin	\$25 million	Sep 2013
Yellow Gin Creek Bridge Upgrade*	Between Ayr and Bowen	\$45 million	Jul 2016
Mackay Southern Access Upgrade^	Mackay	\$49 million	Sep 2013
Yeppen Flood Plain Upgrade*	Rockhampton	\$170 million	Oct 2015
Calliope Crossroad Upgrade^	Calliope	\$85 million	Feb 2015
Cabbage Tree Creek to Carman Road and Back Creek Range Realignment*	Gin Gin	\$59 million	Nov 2014
Gin Gin Southern Approach Upgrade^	Gin Gin	\$17 million	Dec 2013
Cooroy to Curra – Section A ⁺	Sunshine Coast	\$490 million	May 2017
Cooroy to Curra Planning Project^	Sunshine Coast	\$200 million	Dec 2015
Caboolture to Caloundra Intersection Upgrades^	Caboolture to Caloundra	\$195 million	Feb 2016

Projects in design or under construction

Project	Location	Indicative total cost	Current phase	Expected project completion
Cairns Southern Access Corridor – Stage 2 (Robert Road to Foster Road)*	Cairns	\$58 million	Construction	By late-2017
Ash and Pine Street Intersection Upgrade	Innisfail	\$7 million	Design	By late-2017
Cattle and Frances Creek Upgrade*	Ingham	\$118.9 million	Design	By late-2018
Haughton River and Pink Lily Lagoon Upgrade*	Townsville	\$515 million	Design	By early-2022
Sandy Gully Bridge Upgrade*	Bowen	\$57.5 million	Construction	By mid-2018
Mackay Northern Access Upgrade*	Mackay	\$80 million	Design	By early-2020
Mackay Intersection Upgrade – Stage 2*	Mackay	\$9 million	Design	By mid-2018
Mackay Ring Road*	Mackay	\$497.8 million	Design	By mid-2020
Sarina Northern Access Upgrade*	Sarina (near Mackay)	\$11 million	Design	By early-2020
Tinana Overpass*	Tinana (near Maryborough)	\$38 million	Construction	By mid-2017
Cooroy to Curra Section D – Planning and Design*	Gympie	\$65 million	Design	Design to be completed by early-2018
Cooroy to Curra – Section C*	Gympie	\$384.2 million	Construction	By early-2018
Caloundra Road to Sunshine Motorway*	Sunshine Coast	\$929.3 million	Construction	By late-2020
Boundary Road Interchange Upgrade*	Narangba	\$100.4 million	Construction	By late-2017

^ Project funding – 100% federal government.

* Project funding – 80% federal government and 20% state government.

⁺ Project funding – 67% federal government and 33% state government.

* Project funding – 50% federal government and 50% state government.

Projects currently being planned

Project	Location	Indicative total cost
Cairns Southern Access Corridor – Stage 4 (Kate Street to Aumuller Street)	Cairns	\$135 million
Cairns Southern Access Corridor – Stage 3 (Edmonton to Gordonvale)	Cairns	\$481 million
Babinda Intersection Upgrade	Babinda (north of Innisfail)	\$4 million
Innisfail Bypass – Plan and Preserve [#]	Innisfail	\$9 million
Dallachy Road Flood Immunity Upgrade	South of Innisfail	\$11 million
Ingham to Cardwell Range Deviation – Plan and Preserve*	Ingham	\$48 million
Townsville Northern Access Intersections Upgrade	Townsville	\$72 million
Burdekin Deviation – Plan and Preserve#	Burdekin	\$48 million
Goorganga Plains Creek Upgrade – Plan and Preserve [#]	South of Proserpine	\$15 million
Jumper Creek Upgrade	North of Mackay	\$23 million
Knobels Road Intersection Upgrade	North-west of Mackay	\$7 million
Rockhampton Northern Access Upgrade – Stage 1	Rockhampton	\$121 million
Rockhampton Ring Road – Plan and Preserve [#]	Rockhampton	\$65 million
Childers Bypass – Plan and Preserve#	Childers	\$8 million
Saltwater Creek Upgrade	Maryborough	\$103 million
Tiaro Flood Immunity Upgrade	Tiaro (south of Maryborough)	\$107 million
Wide Bay Highway Intersection Upgrade	North of Gympie	\$14 million
Maroochydore Road Interchange Upgrade – Stage 1	Sunshine Coast	\$187 million
Managed Motorways (Gateway Motorway to Caboolture)	Caboolture to Brisbane	\$105 million
Pine River to Caloundra Road Interchange Planning	Caloundra to Brisbane	\$8 million
Pine River to Caloundra Road Interchange Upgrade* (Caboolture-Bribie Island Road to Caloundra Road/Steve Irwin Way)	Caloundra to Brisbane	\$662.5 million
Deception Bay Road Interchange Upgrade	Deception Bay	\$150 million

[#] 'Plan and Preserve' projects focus on securing the required land for future works.

[±] Final scope of works is subject to further planning.

For more information on any of these projects or to view an interactive map showing the projects underway in your area, please visit www.tmr.qld.gov.au/brucehighway.

Construction on the Bundary Road Interchange at Narangba (January 2017).

Program benefits

The program has already achieved significant improvements to safety along the Bruce Highway with an approximately 30% reduction in the number of crashes, fatalities and serious injuries (per 100 million vehicle kilometres travelled) since the program began (based on the baseline statistics – annual average of 2009–2013).

The program has also resulted in an additional 67km of the Bruce Highway now rated at three safety stars or better (out of a possible five stars) according to the nationally recognised Australian Road Assessment Program (AusRAP) safety star rating system. This means more than 81% of travel on the Bruce Highway is now on road sections rated at three safety stars or more.

The benefit of flood resilience projects was evident during ex-Tropical Cyclone Debbie (see right).

Further improvements to flood resilience and road capacity along the Bruce Highway will become evident over the remaining years of the program as flood studies and construction works are completed, and the cumulative benefits of the Bruce Highway projects are realised.

Safety improvement highlights

In addition to the key capital investment projects, the Bruce Highway Upgrade Program has delivered a number of safety improvements.



Wide centre line treatments installed ¹



Road shoulders sealed/widened



Roadside barriers installed



Audio tactile line marking installed ²



Protected right-hand turns installed at known black spots



Signalised intersections installed

59 overtaking lane 2KM AHEAD

Overtaking lanes constructed



Pavement rehabilitated

27new

And **7 improved** rest areas/stopping places

Flooding of the Fitzroy River at the Yeppen Lagoon crossing of the Bruce Highway, Rockhampton following ex-Tropical Cyclone Debbie. Traffic was diverted onto the new Yeppen South bridge, pictured, allowing the Bruce Highway to remain open during the floods (April 2017).

¹ This is in addition to 667 km of wide centre line treatment delivered on the Bruce Highway under other funding programs.

² This is in addition to 378 km of audio tactile line marking delivered on the Bruce Highway under other funding programs.

All information correct as at May 2017.

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