

# Wide centreline treatment

As part of the Bruce Highway Upgrade Program, the Australian and Queensland governments has committed to rolling out wide centreline treatments along the length of the Bruce Highway.

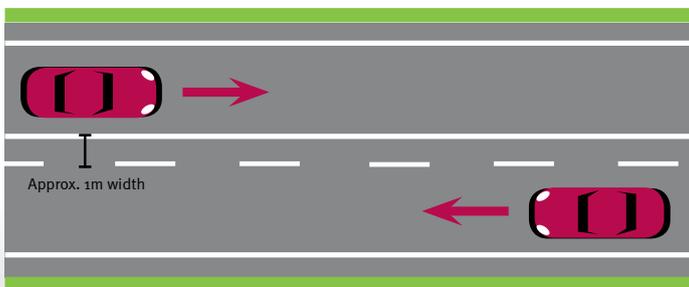
As of June 2015, the Department of Transport and Main Roads has rolled out over 650 kms of wide centreline treatment across the state.

## What is wide centreline treatment?

The wide centreline treatment is a generational change to engineering standards aimed specifically at reducing the cross centre line crashes. This treatment splits the existing line to provide greater separation between oncoming vehicles.

The treatment is applied to highly trafficked, high-speed roads (like the Bruce Highway) in an effort to reduce the severity of head-on crashes. The line markings may be supplemented with audio edge lines, which alerts motorists (via vibration) to the fact that they are veering out of their lane.

Example of treatment



## Why did the department introduce wide centreline treatment?

When first introduced, the wide centreline treatment was expected to reduce cross centreline fatality crashes on open highway sections by 30%. Extensive international research indicated that the roll-out of the wide centreline treatment would be effective in improving road safety on Queensland's roads.

## Why is the treatment effective?

The treatment provides motorists with the opportunity to avoid head on crashes, by providing more response time when a vehicle starts travelling across the median. More response time allows motorists to slow down, recover or reduce the severity of a crash.

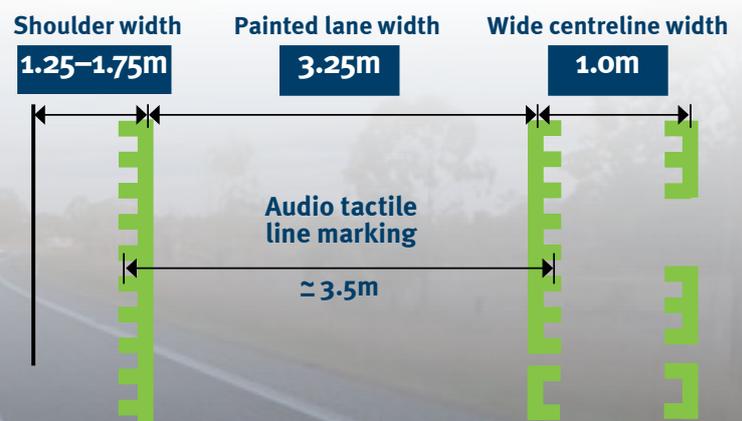
It also allows more space when motorists are passing cyclists, and vehicles that are stopped on the side of the road. It provides for safer overtaking by improving the motorist's view of on-coming vehicles.

Since 2012, we are able to report that there has been a decrease in serious casualties on our major highway from 52 in 2012, to 17 in 2014.

Paired with the enforcement and education strategies, our engineering and infrastructure treatment adds to the overall safety of our road network. The significant aspects of the treatment includes:

- narrower lanes for both cost and safety benefits providing improved value for money
- wide centreline treatment to reduce cross centreline crashes
- appropriate shoulder widths to balance the crash risk for drivers
- intervention standards designed to accelerate implementation and maximise benefits for the network.

## Treatment specifications



Australian Government

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Queensland Government

## Driving along the wide centreline

Standard road rules apply when driving on a section of the road that has been treated with a wide centreline.

The linemarking indicates if overtaking is permitted by showing a broken white line. Solid lines indicate that overtaking is not permitted as per the standard road rules.

Motorists will be notified of upcoming wide centreline treatment via roadside signage. Roadside signage that can be found along the Bruce Highway is depicted below.

