Pacific Motorway (M1) Upgrade: M1/M3/Gateway Merge

October 2018

Project update

Work on the M1 Pacific Motorway upgrade M1/M3/Gateway Merge is progressing well with major construction activities underway across the project site.

Major earthworks continue adjacent to the southbound lanes of the Pacific Motorway from the merge to Rochedale Road, with more than 40,000m$^3$ of material moved in the past three months.

Traffic changes and barriers installed on School Road and Underwood Road in September, have created work areas for the relocation of public utility services, including water, telecommunications, and power to commence.

This month, work will also commence on the new four lane Underwood Road bridge. The piling rig moved to site in late September and will complete 29 piles for the new bridge foundation during October and November.

Upcoming activities and night works

The following construction activities will take place during October, weather permitting:

- Earthworks
- Drainage installation
- Pavement construction
- Sheet piling for drainage culvert construction (Sheet piling notification link)
- Piling for the new Underwood Road bridge (Piling notification link)
- Installation of fencing
- Retaining wall construction near School Road and Eight Mile Plains School
- Relocation of public utilities including watermain, sewer, power and telecommunications
- Temporary street light relocation
- Deliveries of equipment and material to site
- Construction of site access gates

The majority of works will take place during standard construction hours. For the safety of motorists and on-site workers, some works are required at night from 7pm to 5am Monday to Friday and 7pm to 7am Saturday and Sunday.

What to expect during construction

- Work will involve the use of trucks, excavators, graders, compaction equipment, elevated work platforms, cranes, piling rigs, asphalt equipment, vacuum trucks and lighting towers
- Changed traffic conditions and reduced speed limits through the construction site, including the Pacific Motorway and some local roads
- Temporary lane closures and traffic control, as required
- Increased construction traffic accessing work areas and site compounds
- Vehicles and equipment with flashing lights and reversing beepers for the safety of onsite workers
- Increased levels of noise, dust and vibration, associated with the use of construction equipment

In the event of wet weather, the works will be continued on the next available shift.

Works are expected to continue until mid 2020.
**Major Stormwater drainage installation**

As part of the upgrade, two new stormwater drainage culverts will be installed under the Pacific Motorway, south of the Underwood Road bridge.

To minimise impacts on motorists and the community, these culverts will be constructed underground using a small tunnel boring machine (TBM).

The TBM machine will bore beneath the Pacific Motorway, excavating through rock and soil. Large, concrete stormwater pipes are then hydraulically jacked (pushed) behind the TBM, forming a continuous pipe underground.

Some surface works will be required at both the ‘launch’ and ‘retrieval’ ends of the culverts, including outlet construction, involving the use of excavators, cranes, concrete trucks and compaction equipment. Temporary sheet piles will also be required at the site near Sylvia Street, Underwood.

The majority of works to install these drainage culverts will be completed during standard construction hours. Nearby residents may be able to see and hear these works.

Works to construct these stormwater drainage culverts commenced in late September and will continue until early 2019.

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**Contacting the Project Team**

In case of emergency, we are contactable 24/7:

- Phone (freecall 24/7) – 1800 571 816
- Email: gatewaymerge@tmr.qld.gov.au

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**Further information**

Further information, including a fact sheet, fly-through video, and Frequently Asked Questions is available on the project website

Please feel free to share this information with your contacts who use the M1. They may also wish to subscribe by emailing gatewaymerge@tmr.qld.gov.au

Keeping updated means being able to make informed decisions about choosing alternative routes or expecting considerable travel delays.

Weather, site and contractor conditions can impact works, delaying start and finish schedules.

For the latest traffic conditions on the Gold Coast, please contact the Statewide Traffic Management Centre on 13 19 40, or visit [www.131940.qld.gov.au](http://www.131940.qld.gov.au)