

Start of Variable Speed Limit sign operations

Sunshine Motorway eastbound between Tanawha Tourist Drive and Kawana Way

Overview

Variable Speed Limit (VSL) signs will begin operating on the Sunshine Motorway eastbound lanes between Tanawha Tourist Drive and Kawana Way in early October 2016.

The electronic signs will be used to display reduced speed limits in response to changing road conditions such as traffic congestion, incidents or bad weather. They aim to improve safety and reduce the crash risk by adjusting the speed limit to suit the road conditions, encouraging motorists to drive at speeds appropriate to the conditions.

How it works

Live traffic conditions will be monitored via CCTV cameras and in-pavement vehicle detectors, and changes to the speed limit will be made as needed. For example, the signs will be used if congestion is approaching, or occurs.

If congestion is imminent, the signs will reduce the speed limit to 80km/h. If congestion occurs and vehicle speeds drop to below 80km/h, the signs may reduce the speed limit to 60km/h. The speed limit will be reduced in 20km/h increments to slow vehicles down safely in advance of congestion. When no speed reductions are needed, the signs will display the default 100km/h speed limit.

Benefits to motorists

The VSL signs will aim to improve safety and reduce the crash risk on the Sunshine Motorway. By adjusting the speed limit to suit the road conditions, this will encourage motorists to drive at speeds appropriate to the conditions.

- **Safety** will be improved by reducing the speed differences between vehicles, minimising lane changing and braking caused by speed differences, and increasing the time for drivers to react to changing conditions.
- **Crash** risk will be reduced by reducing the likelihood and severity of rear-end crashes.

Timeframes

The VSL signs are scheduled to start operating on **Tuesday 4 October 2016**. For the first week, the signs will display the default speed of 100km/h to allow the system to be assessed. After this, the signs are expected to begin full operations.

More information

- **Visit** www.tmr.qld.gov.au and search 'Sunshine Motorway Variable Speed Limit Signs'
- **Call** 5451 7055 (during office hours from Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5pm)
- **Email** northcoast@tmr.qld.gov.au.

For up-to-date information about traffic conditions, visit www.131940.qld.gov.au or call **13 19 40**.