

# Toowoomba Second Range Crossing

*A safer, faster link in the National Land Transport Network*



*New England Highway, Mount Kynoch with excavation underway for the TSRC cutting, at left, and foundations being laid for twin arch bridges on the New England Highway, at right, where it will pass over the TSRC cutting.*

## Works update (from February 2017):

**Eastern section** – haul road construction and bulk earthworks are continuing. Construction of underpasses at McNamaras Road, Morleys Road and Paynters Road now complete with the next phase being the construction of reinforced soil walls. Construction of columns for the bridge piers at Gittens Road, Gatton Creek and Six Mile Creek has commenced. In the viaduct location at Mount Kynoch, piling works are nearing completion and pile caps have been poured at several piers. Construction of a storage area for the precast girders and launching girder assembly area is underway.

**Central section** – major earthworks are continuing on the eastern and western side of the New England Highway (picture above) with significant progress visible in the area around Mort Street interchange and the connecting local roads. Works on bridge foundations at Gowrie Creek, Boundary Street and Mort Street are complete with the next phase being the construction of headstocks. Early works associated with the construction of the New England Highway realignment and twin arch bridges are underway.

**Western section** – bridge foundations at Gowrie Junction Road nearing completion and construction of embankments for several bridges has commenced. The new heavy vehicle rest area at Nass Road is progressing well with earthworks for the new pad nearing completion. Culvert installations are ongoing and earthworks in other parts of the western areas continuing.

## Key interchanges:

As part of the TSRC, several key interchanges have been designed to provide vital links between the TSRC and connecting highways and roads in the Lockyer Valley and Toowoomba regions. The project's key interchanges are:

- Warrego East interchange at Helidon Spa
- Warrego West interchange at Charlton
- Mort Street interchange at Mount Kynoch
- Boundary Street at Cranley
- Toowoomba-Cecil Plains Road interchange at Wellcamp
- Gore Highway interchange at Athol.





## Project overview:

The Department of Transport and Main Roads is delivering the Toowoomba Second Range Crossing (TSRC), a 41km-long toll road that will pass Toowoomba on its northern side, linking the Warrego Highway at Helidon Spa in the east and the Gore Highway at Athol in the west (via Charlton).

The TSRC will be a safer and faster link in the National Land Transport Network, providing commercial vehicles with an alternative crossing of the Toowoomba Range to improve freight efficiency and driver safety, relieve pressure on roads in Toowoomba and the Lockyer Valley, and enhance liveability for the region's residents.

The TSRC is due to be completed and be operational by late 2018.

## Benefits at a glance:

- avoids up to 18 sets of traffic lights in Toowoomba
- reduces travel time (by up to 40 minutes)
- 30m-deep cutting through the Toowoomba Range removes the need for a tunnel and will allow over-dimension vehicles and all classes of dangerous goods vehicles to use the TSRC
- improved freight efficiency by redirecting up to 80% of heavy and super heavy commercial vehicles away from the existing Toowoomba central business district
- reduction in vehicle operating costs by ensuring a maximum slope gradient of 6.5% across the

Toowoomba Range, a significant decrease from the existing range crossing, which is up to 10% in parts

- accommodate regional growth and increase productivity on the Darling Downs
- safer and less congested route than the existing range crossing.

## Features at a glance:

- four lanes (two lanes each way) from Warrego Highway East Interchange at Helidon Spa to Warrego Highway West (Charlton)
- grade-separated interchanges at Warrego Highway East, Warrego Highway West, Toowoomba-Cecil Plains Road and Gore Highway
- grade-separated connections to Mort Street and Boundary Street in Toowoomba City
- an 800m-long viaduct built over the existing Queensland Rail line at Mount Kynoch
- a 30-metre deep cutting at the top of the Toowoomba Range
- continuity of New England Highway through bridges (two lanes each) over the cutting.

## Community information:

For more information about the project, contact Nexus at:

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