MEDIA STATEMENT

16 July 2021

Bruce Highway traffic changes at Forest Glen

Temporary traffic changes are underway on the Bruce Highway Upgrade – Maroochydore Road and Mons Road \$301.25 million interchanges project.

From Monday 19 July 2021 (weather and construction conditions permitting), southbound traffic on the Bruce Highway will be temporarily diverted onto a 500-metre section of the new eastern service road over Eudlo Creek at Forest Glen.

The traffic switch will enable major drainage to be installed under the southbound carriageway of the Bruce Highway.

Transport and Main Roads North Coast Regional Director Scott Whitaker said as part of the project the Maroochydore Road and Mons Road interchanges would be upgraded, with new two-way service roads on the eastern and western sides of the Bruce Highway would be built for local traffic.

"This project is part of the 15-year, \$13 billion Bruce Highway Upgrade Program which is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland governments on an 80:20 basis," Mr Whitaker said.

"When complete, motorists can expect to see improvements in safety, efficiency, flood immunity and increased capacity along the Bruce Highway and at these two busy interchanges."

Mr Whitaker said the construction of the new eastern service road bridge over Eudlo Creek marked a significant milestone.

"Good progress has been made on the construction of the new eastern service road bridge and road due to favourable weather and construction conditions," he said.

"This will allow for traffic to be temporarily diverted onto a section of the new eastern service road over Eudlo Creek at Forest Glen until about mid-2022.

"The traffic switch will enable highway traffic to keep flowing freely, and motorists will still be able to use Exit 200 to Mons Road and access to local businesses will continue to be maintained.

"When complete, the eastern and western service roads will enable motorists to travel between the Maroochydore Road and Mons Road interchanges without having to use the Bruce Highway, separating local and regional traffic."

Mr Whitaker said it was vital motorists observed all signs when approaching the roadworks, adapted to the changed traffic conditions, and allowed for extra travel time.

"I encourage motorists to pay special attention to construction signs when travelling through this area," he said.

To minimise disruption to motorists and traffic flow, a combination of day and night works will be underway. Reduced speed limits will be in place to ensure the safety of road workers and motorists.



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Mr Whitaker thanked motorists and the surrounding community for their patience and co-operation as construction continues on the Bruce Highway upgrade.

"Further traffic changes are programmed over coming months," he said.

The project is expected to be completed by late 2022 (weather and construction conditions permitting).

The Australian Government is contributing \$241 million and the Queensland Government contributing \$60.25 million.

This investment is estimated to support more than 380 direct jobs over the life of the project.

For more information and to register for project updates, visit <u>www.tmr.qld.gov.au</u> and search for 'Bruce Highway Upgrade - Maroochydore Road and Mons Road interchanges'.

For live information about these traffic changes, go to <u>www.qld.traffic.qld.gov.au</u> or call 13 19 40 or check the QldTraffic app (download for free from the App Store or Google Play).

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