

MEDIA STATEMENT

10 July 2018

Millaa Millaa-Malanda Road repairs - update

Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is continuing to work with contractor COLAS to repair and plan a permanent solution to reseal affected areas of Millaa Millaa-Malanda Road, Kenney Highway and Palmerston Highway.

TMR District Director Sandra Burke said remedial works yesterday on Kennedy Highway, near Upper Barron Road, had used specialist machinery which had stabilised the surface.

“These works will continue for about four more days, weather permitting. The machinery will then be relocated to the Palmerston Highway to treat isolated sections,” Ms Burke said.

“We are also continuing to monitor the Millaa Millaa-Malanda Road site, which has been stabilised.”

Ms Burke said the Transport and Main Roads Minister had directed the department to thoroughly investigate this matter.

“TMR’s investigation is focused on identifying factors that contributed to the seal failure,” Ms Burke said.

“We expect the test results to be available in one week. Once we have gathered all the necessary data we will be able to determine the program of works required for a permanent solution.”

Ms Burke said TMR had so far received 25 vehicle damage claims officially lodged for processing.

“All vehicle damage claims continue to be assessed on a case-by case basis, and we will ensure proven claims receive fair compensation,” Ms Burke said.

“We again apologise to those people whose vehicles have been damaged and travel plans disrupted by this extremely unusual event.

“Any motorists whose vehicles have been damaged can contact TMR on 4045 7144.”

Ms Burke said COLAS, the company contracted to do the reseal works, had offices across Australia and had been operating in North Queensland since 2010.

“When awarding works, TMR offers work through a tender process using construction and maintenance contract arrangements,” Ms Burke said.

“All companies in Queensland which hold a valid TMR sprayer certificate can tender for these reseal works.

“The bitumen binder is sourced from certified suppliers local to the Cairns region and cover aggregate used for reseal projects is purchased from certified local quarries local to the Cairns region.”

Traffic control remains in place at all sites and we urge motorists to slow down and drive to the conditions.

Drivers can check for updates on the roadworks at www.qldtraffic.qld.gov.au or calling 13 19 40.

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