

Different types of roads and their purpose

What are the different roads?

Queensland's road network forms a vital link connecting communities with goods, services and leisure activities. As you drive through Queensland, you will notice that all roads are not the same. That is because we need different roads for different purposes.

An easy way to identify the various types of roads is:

- local roads
- collector and distributor roads
- sub-arterial and arterial roads - these are the major highways, motorways and freeways.

Also, while not technically a road, bikeways provide the general community with an alternative means of travel.

Local roads

Local roads are largely the neighbourhood street system. These roads are relatively free of through traffic and mostly handle local traffic. The challenge in these areas is to provide a high level of safety and adequate access to neighbourhood services and facilities. Local roads are typically maintained by the local authority.

Collector and distributor roads

Collector and distributor roads are the roads that connect communities to the major sub-arterial and arterial roads in Queensland. Typically, they allow for the transport of agricultural goods and the like, to major highways for transport to markets. Similarly, in an urban environment they tend to be the roads connecting suburbs to the major freeways.

Sub-arterial and arterial roads

Sub-arterial and arterial roads are the major connecting roads across Queensland. They include highways, freeways and motorways. On an average day, they handle large volumes of freight and passenger vehicles.



Major arterial roads

Ipswich Motorway upgrade: Dinmore to Goodna

This \$1.95 billion project, funded by the Australian Government, involves upgrading eight kilometres of the Ipswich Motorway between Dinmore and Goodna.

Construction started in mid 2009 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2012.

The project will deliver many benefits to Queensland, including:

- More reliable travel times along the motorway.
- Reduced congestion by significantly increasing motorway capacity and traffic flow.
- Improved pedestrian and cyclist facilities.
- New and upgraded local roads and cross-motorway connections.
- Improved motorway safety through smoother geometry and longer, more evenly spaced on and off ramps.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads has formed Origin Alliance to deliver this project. For more information, visit www.tmr.qld.gov.au/dinmore2goodna. Alternatively, you can contact the Community Engagement Team on 1800 465 682.

Overtaking lanes

A two-lane road with overtaking lanes provides a level of service between that of two lanes and four lanes. The role of overtaking lanes is to provide an economical and practical method of breaking up traffic queues and improving traffic flow. Before traffic volumes demand an upgrade to dual carriage-ways, overtaking lanes maximise use of the road. Overtaking occurs when drivers want to overtake another, slower moving vehicle. Overtaking lanes provide an opportunity to overtake safely. When planning overtaking opportunities, designers employ a number of different technical methods to determine where and when overtaking opportunities should exist.

Factors such as site distances, the nature of the traffic on the road, location of gradients, the geometry of the road, intersections and accesses, the length of road and spacing are all considered when overtaking lanes are designed. The provision of overtaking lanes is one of the ways the department provides a positive, safer road user experience.

Mains Road and Kessels Road intersection upgrade

The Mains Road and Kessels Road intersection at MacGregor is one of Queensland's busiest intersections, with an average of over 90,000 vehicle movements per day.

Funded by the Australian Government, through the Nation Building program, this \$300 million upgrade will separate Kessels Road traffic from Mains Road traffic by providing a short underpass beneath Mains Road. Improved turn and intersection lanes, as well as new provisions for buses, pedestrians and cyclists will be included in the upgrade.

The new underpass will improve safety and travel times and provide a more efficient and reliable intersection with capacity to accommodate future traffic growth.

The project is on track for construction to start in early 2012 and is scheduled to be completed in late 2014, weather permitting. Community engagement, detailed design and preconstruction activities are continuing in 2011.

For more information, visit mainskessels@tmr.qld.gov.au



How to contact us

General information

Call +61 7 3405 0985 or visit www.tmr.qld.gov.au

Our offices are the public face of the department. Behind the scenes, their work is supported by our state-wide groups.

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(Vehicle and recreation vessel registration, driver licences and recreational boat licences)

Real time traffic information 13 19 40