

2 April 2026

Early works ramping up for construction of new Fitzroy River crossing

- A new third Fitzroy River crossing is on the horizon, with early works underway between Pink Lily and Parkhurst.
- The 435 metre, four-lane crossing is approximately 4.5 kilometres upstream of the Fitzroy River Barrage.
- Construction of a temporary river-width work platform will commence this month parallel to the new bridge alignment.

The Queensland Government has begun early works for the construction of Rockhampton's third river crossing as a part of the \$1.98 billion Rockhampton Ring Road project.

The completed bridge will improve connectivity and create jobs and economic opportunities in the region, as well as enabling safer and more efficient travel for locals.

A key component of this significant infrastructure project, the 435-metre-long third river crossing over the Fitzroy River will connect Pink Lily and Parkhurst. See vision [here](#).

The new four-lane bridge is a balanced cantilever segmented box girder design and includes shared active transport facilities in both directions.

A temporary bridge will be built upstream of the new crossing alignment, as a work platform to construct the much-anticipated new bridge. It will be anchored with 40 steel piles and 20 piers, with a deck made from precast concrete components.

Previously used for Hobart's New Bridgewater Bridge, the steel components were delivered in 120 loads from Gladstone Port to Rockhampton in late 2025.

Construction of a compacted gravel pad and access track on the Pink Lily side of the river is nearing completion. Once piling on the land-based bridge approaches is complete, the sequential construction of the 270-metre-long and 12.5-metre-wide pile-driven temporary bridge will commence in the Fitzroy River.

To ensure the safety of workers and river users, a 250-metre section of the river between Pink Lily and Parkhurst, 4.5 kilometres upriver of the Fitzroy River Barrage, will be designated a temporarily exclusion zone to all river traffic. Vessels will be prohibited from anchoring, berthing, mooring, operating or conducting any activity that may endanger marine safety in this area.

- Stage 1: Partial exclusion (250m long, 220m wide) from 7 April to 12 July 2026, with a 50m navigation channel open on the Parkhurst side.
- Stage 2: Full exclusion (250m long, 270m wide) from 13 July 2026 until mid-2026.

Media contact– media@tmr.qld.gov.au or phone (07) 3066 7060



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Yellow buoys with flashing lights and signage at boat ramps will mark the zone. No vessels will be allowed through during the full exclusion period. The bridge will sit less than two metres above the waterline.

The Rockhampton Ring Road project team has engaged with Rockhampton rowing clubs during the planning and design of the new Fitzroy River crossing, with feedback informing the final design of the bridge.

Transport and Main Roads Regional Director (Central Queensland) Dave Grosse said the Rockhampton Ring Road was an important infrastructure investment for the Central Queensland region.

“The commencement of early works for the new crossing of the Fitzroy River is a significant step toward delivering a project that will transform how people and goods move through Central Queensland,” Mr Grosse said.

“The temporary bridge demonstrates how the project is utilising sustainable solutions and existing resources to deliver critical infrastructure. It’s a great example of repurposing assets to construct the third river crossing over the Fitzroy River.

“We understand the temporary exclusion zone in the Fitzroy River, between Pink Lily and Parkhurst may cause some inconvenience for river users, but safety is a top priority for the public, the joint venture contractor and the Queensland Government.

“I know how much locals are looking forward to a third crossing over the Fitzroy River,” Mr Grosse said.

Access for emergency response will be provided at all times.

For the latest advice regarding river access and to view the Notice to Mariners, visit Maritime Safety Queensland dashboard www.qldmaritime.msq.qld.gov.au

For further information, visit [Rockhampton Ring Road | Department of Transport and Main Roads](#) and find vision [here](#).

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Media contact: TMR Media – (07) 3066 7060