

# MEDIA STATEMENT

19 July 2023

## Community consultation open for Sunshine Coast transport Big Build

- Consultation for several major road, rail and public transport projects on the Sunshine Coast is now open.
- Sunshine Coast community can view details on Direct Sunshine Coast Rail Line, Sunshine Coast Public Transport project, Kawana Motorway and the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade.
- The Sunshine Coast is one of Queensland's fastest growing regions with more than half a million people to call it home by 2041.
- Consultation closes on 20 August.

Locals can view plans for a massive Sunshine Coast transport transformation with community consultation now open for several major road, rail and public transport projects.

Community engagement opens today on four key projects: Direct Sunshine Coast Rail, the Sunshine Coast Public Transport project, Kawana Motorway and the Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange Upgrade.

The four projects form part of TMR's multi-modal transport solution that will help reduce travel time and congestion, provide more accessible travel choices and accommodate more than 500,000 residents by 2041.

Combined, they hold the key to encouraging sustainable growth and unlocking transport bottlenecks, and are essential to ensuring the Sunshine Coast remains a great place to live, work and visit for generations to come.

The integrated community engagement approach will ensure the community understands the full picture of the region's future transport network and how each projects connects.

The community engagement includes a social media campaign, multi-media advertising, letterbox drops and a series of community 'drop-in' information sessions, providing opportunities for residents to speak directly with project teams.

To learn more or provide feedback, visit [www.yoursay-projects.tmr.qld.gov.au/sunshine-coast-major-projects](http://www.yoursay-projects.tmr.qld.gov.au/sunshine-coast-major-projects).

Consultation will continue until 20 August 2023.

### Quotes attributable to the Transport and Main Roads Acting Director-General Sally Stannard:

"People are moving to Queensland in droves for our great lifestyle, our growing industries and for the thousands of jobs we are creating.

"That growth gives us an opportunity for more integrated transport infrastructure to maintain our lifestyle and our economic prosperity."

### Quotes attributable to the Transport and Main Roads North Coast Regional Director Scott Whitaker:

"I urge all locals to learn more about the projects that will help enhance the lifestyle and the liveability of one of Queensland's fastest growing regions.

"We know Sunshine Coast locals are passionate about helping shape our bigger picture solution, so I encourage everyone to get involved and provide feedback by 20 August so we can make the coast an even more accessible, efficient and sustainable place for everyone."

**ENDS**

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

### *Direct Sunshine Coast Rail Line*

- The Queensland Government has committed \$14 million towards this detailed business case and is working in partnership with the Australian Government.
- Investigates a proposed 37km heavy rail extension between Beerwah and Maroochydore, to confirm station locations, alignment, staging, construction timeframes and cost.
- Will include park 'n' rides and active transport provisions.
- Builds upon planning completed in 2001 by the Caboolture to Maroochydore Corridor Study (CAMCOS).
- Will connect economic centres of the Sunshine Coast, Moreton Bay and Brisbane and Sunshine Coast Public Transport project. Will deliver better regional connections between the Sunshine Coast, Moreton Bay and Brisbane regions.
- More information: [www.yoursay-projects.tmr.qld.gov.au/sunshine-coast-major-projects](http://www.yoursay-projects.tmr.qld.gov.au/sunshine-coast-major-projects)

### *Sunshine Motorway, Mooloolah River Interchange (MRI) Upgrade*

- The Australian Government and Queensland Government jointly committed \$320 million on a 50:50 (federal:state) basis to deliver Stage 1 of the project.
- Stage 1 will deliver a new road overpass from Nicklin Way to Brisbane Road and a new local road connection between Mountain Creek and Mooloolaba. These local road connections will separate local traffic from high-speed motorway traffic and reduce traffic weaving — a well-known issue at the interchange.
- Future stages include a new river crossing to connect the Sunshine Motorway and Kawana Way, major upgrade of the interchange and duplication of the Sunshine Motorway between the interchange and the existing Kawana Way Interchange.
- A design layout has been developed for the entire MRI Upgrade project. It considers community feedback received during project planning, as well as a range of technical, design and on-site investigations undertaken over the last 18 months.
- More information: [www.yoursay-projects.tmr.qld.gov.au/sunshine-coast-major-projects](http://www.yoursay-projects.tmr.qld.gov.au/sunshine-coast-major-projects)

### *Kawana Motorway*

- \$2.6 million business case, funded by the Australian Government as part of the Southern Sunshine Coast Roads Improvement Study.
- Would form part of a new north-south motorway link from the Bruce Highway to the existing Sunshine Motorway.
- Provides an alternative route to the Bruce Highway for motorists travelling within the region, helping reduce traffic on Nicklin Way and Kawana Way through a direct connection to the Mooloolah River Interchange.
- More information: [www.yoursay-projects.tmr.qld.gov.au/sunshine-coast-major-projects](http://www.yoursay-projects.tmr.qld.gov.au/sunshine-coast-major-projects)

### *Sunshine Coast Public Transport*

- \$15 million detailed business case, funded equally by the Australian Government, Queensland Government and Sunshine Coast Council (SCC).
- Explores solutions for an enhanced public transport connection between Maroochydore and Birtinya, with a possible extension to Caloundra.
- Builds on work previously undertaken by SCC through its Mass Transit Options Analysis endorsed in 2021.
- Will help reduce the reliance on private vehicles and enable greater local, intra-regional travel, providing connections to other public transport services and the Direct Sunshine Coast Rail Line.
- More information: [www.yoursay-projects.tmr.qld.gov.au/sunshine-coast-major-projects](http://www.yoursay-projects.tmr.qld.gov.au/sunshine-coast-major-projects)

**Video content available at <https://owncloud.tmr.qld.gov.au/index.php/s/h5HeHqWJIGhsaHf> (password engagement)**

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