



# Bruce Highway—Cairns Southern Access Corridor Stage 3: Edmonton to Gordonvale Project

## Construction Update - January 2021

Works currently underway include:

- Construction of the Thomas Street to Newman Street connection is expected to be complete by late January 2021
- Construction of a section of the new dedicated cycleway between Fisher Road and Draper Road, is expected to be completed by late January 2021
- Commenced the new pedestrian underpass located 150m north of Draper Road intersection Earthworks for cane rail and Queensland Rail (QR) North Coast Line relocation at Maher Road
- Earthworks for the Pine Creek - Yarrabah Road overpass Pine Creek - Yarrabah Road realignment including survey marking, clearing, earthworks and cane rail removal
- Construction of the new cane rail will be prioritised ready for the 2021 cane harvest season
- Construction of the new Warner - Harris Connector Road, is expected to be completed and open to road users in mid-January 2021
- Earthworks at Wrights Creek and at Stoney Creek for QR North Coast Line relocation, four lanes of the Bruce Highway upgrade and duplication
- Piling pad construction in readiness for the installation of the bridge piles in early 2021
- All works weather permitting.



*Construction of Bruce Highway duplication and cycleway at Draper Road South.*



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## Upcoming works - Works scheduled to commence in early 2021

- Install entry gates and continue clearing the area between Warner Road and Littles Road for the construction of the Pine Creek - Yarrabah Road realignment
- Construction of the Wrights Creek bridges
- Commence the relocation of Ergon electricity infrastructure
- Closure of Hill / Harris Road access to the Bruce Highway
- Change Maher Road access to left in left out only to the Bruce Highway
- Removal of existing overtaking lane northbound on Bruce Highway between Castlereagh Street and Maitland Road to enable
- construction of new Pine Creek - Yarrabah Road overpass
- Construction of private accesses and property works



Realignment of Queensland Rail North Coast Line at Maher Road.

## Update to construction working hours

### Construction working hours have been extended

- Day works will now be completed from 7am to 6pm across all work sites.
- Night works will continue to occur as required between 7pm to 5am

## Christmas Closure

The project team recommenced onsite today, Monday 4 January 2021.

## Managing Construction Impacts

As with all construction projects, there will be some impacts to the community including increased noise, dust and vibration.

### How is the E2G project assisting to reduce these impacts?

- **Noise:** Noise monitoring is conducted to ensure construction noise remains within approved levels.
- **Dust:** Using soil binders on stockpiles and exposed areas, water carts to control dust, and minimising works during periods of high winds.
- **Vibration:** Vibration monitors are used during periods of high impact construction activity to ensure vibration levels are within approved limits.

The project also has a dedicated community engagement team available to support you to manage these impacts. If you would like assistance with managing construction impacts, please call the project hotline on **1800 187 937**.

## 2020 Construction achievements



**567**

People were inducted to the E2G site



**210,043**

Employee hours worked



**281,000**

Tonne of quarry materials delivered to site



**604**

Interactions with the community



**3,500**

Survey pegs placed across the project area

## Bricks with history

The project has been able to assist with a longstanding local investigation that dates back to the 1800's.

Bricks, made in the late 1800's that show the imprint of a child's foot, have been found in the Gordonvale region and were used in the construction of the Mulgrave Mill. The footprint is known to be from a local girl around the age of 9, but the mystery stands as to which local family the girl was from.

When the demolition of an old farmhouse was required for the project, interest peaked to see if more of the mysterious bricks would be found. Unfortunately, much to the project's disappointment, none of the bricks held any footprint-like clues. And so, the local mystery continues.



*Bricks recovered from demolished farmhouse.*

## Sediment basins

Motorists and locals will notice several pool-like water catchments. These 'pools' are called sediment basins, designed to capture coarse sediment and litter carried by stormwater before it reaches the waterways.

The sediment basins work by slowing down the flow of water and capturing it to allow the sediment to settle to the bottom. The water on top is then either recycled and reused by the project or reabsorbed slowly into the earth.

The project, being located in the wet tropics where rainfall is a guaranteed annual event, makes sediment basins an essential element of the construction sites to help mitigate the impacts of the wet season the project will experience over three years of construction. There will be 19 temporary basins throughout the stages of construction and up to 14 permanent basins to help the new highway continue to manage stormwater into the future.



*Sediment pond at Wrights Creek (North).*

## Painting the project green

Earthworks are looking green in some sections. The green film covering stockpiles and exposed areas across the project is a special polymer solution used to bind the soil. Soil binders are used to help reduce dust, control loose materials from wind and water erosion.



*Soil binder securing the materials used to construct the northbound carriageway between Castlereagh Street and Maitland Road.*

## Stay connected

 1800 187 937\*

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