Project overview

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is planning to upgrade the Bruce Highway by increasing the existing four lane dual carriageway to a six lane dual carriageway between Kate Street and Aumuller Street as part of the Bruce Highway - Cairns Southern Access Corridor – Stage 4: Kate Street to Aumuller Street project.

The road will be upgraded to cater for future growth in the critical corridor which services major freight centres, industrial development and access to the Port of Cairns, the wharf precinct and Cairns CBD.

The project will deliver long term improvements to traffic flow, freight delivery and road safety south of Cairns.

The Australian Government has committed $108 million towards the $135 million project, with the Queensland Government committing $27 million, as part of the $8.5 billion 10-year Bruce Highway Upgrade Program.
The Kate Street to Aumuller Street project is consistent with the 2010 Cairns Bruce Highway Master Plan. It will extend work already done to manage urban congestion on Cairns’ southern corridor over the next 30 years.

The master plan aims to create a total transport solution that will meet the needs of residents and freight in coming decades.

It is estimated that up to 46,000 motorists will be using this section of the Bruce Highway each day by the year 2036.

**Project features**

The Stage 4 project will:

- improve traffic flow and reduce congestion during peak periods
- increase safety
- support existing infrastructure and industrial development in the port precinct
- ensure the efficient movement of freight in and out of Cairns
- support safe travel up to 80km/h
- have minimal environmental impact
- manage projected population growth and road use for the key commercial and industrial area servicing southern Cairns.

**Project scope**

Stage 4 extends northeast from Kate Street to Aumuller Street near the Port of Cairns.

At Chinaman Creek, options include the building of a new bridge and widening of an existing bridge and it will include upgrades to the Lyons and Aumuller Street intersections.

Possible increases to the above scope are dependent on factors such as traffic growth and available funding.

**Map**

A detailed map of the Stage 4 project can be found at [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au) by searching for ‘Bruce Highway – Cairns Southern Access Corridor – Stage 4: Kate Street to Aumuller Street’.

**For more information**

If you need further information about the project, or would like to be added to the project mailing list, please contact the project team via:

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