Gateway Motorway and Bruce Highway Upgrades – north Brisbane to Moreton Bay Region Initial Consultation Summary

February 2021







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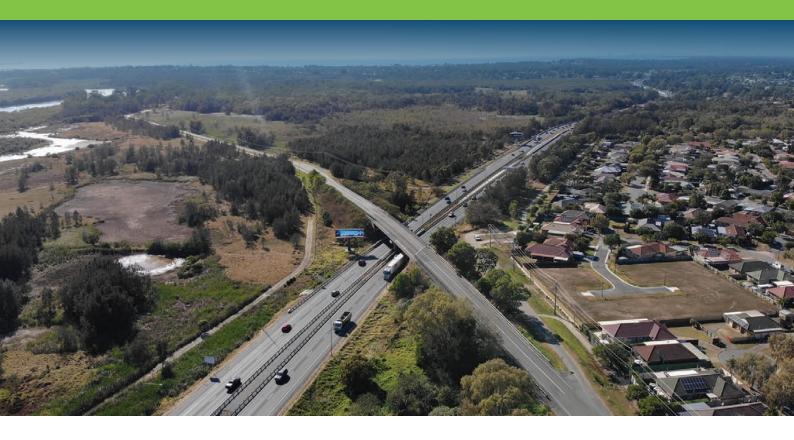
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Introduction

Significant population growth in Brisbane and the Moreton Bay Region is increasing travel demand on the Gateway Motorway, the Bruce Highway and Gympie Arterial Road. Traffic levels on this already congested road corridor are expected to increase by 50 per cent by 2041.

The Australian Government and the Queensland Government have committed a total of \$2.1 billion (on an 80:20 funding basis) for upgrades to the Gateway Motorway (\$1 billion) and Bruce Highway (\$1.1 billion).

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) has started an integrated approach to planning and consultation to ensure the best outcomes are achieved for the overall transport network and the community. The planning will encompass:

- upgrading the Gateway Motorway (Bracken Ridge to Pine River)
- upgrading the Bruce Highway (Gateway Motorway to Dohles Rocks Road)
- upgrading the Gympie Arterial Road (Strathpine Road to Gateway Motorway)
- delivering the north-facing ramps (northern connections) at Dohles Rocks Road interchange to the Bruce Highway
- a new road along the North South Urban Arterial (NSUA) corridor between Dohles Rocks Road and Anzac Avenue.*

Through this integrated planning approach, optimum network solutions and staging will be determined to ensure whole-of-network benefits to this area.

TMR is expecting the business cases for the upgrades to be finalised by 2023. The business cases will determine optimal network solutions and potential design and construction timeframes, which would then be subject to approval of the business case and available funding.

^{*} The NSUA is a TMR and Moreton Bay Regional Council initiative.

Initial community consultation

TMR is committed to engaging with the community as early as possible to provide input into the planning, with initial community consultation undertaken from July-September 2020.

Community feedback was received through our online survey, via email, phone and at meetings. This included feedback from:



205 online survey responses



34 emails



24 key stakeholder meetings



16 phone enquiries

This feedback is being considered as part of the planning undertaken for the upgrades. Community engagement will be ongoing as planning progresses with further consultation periods undertaken in the future.

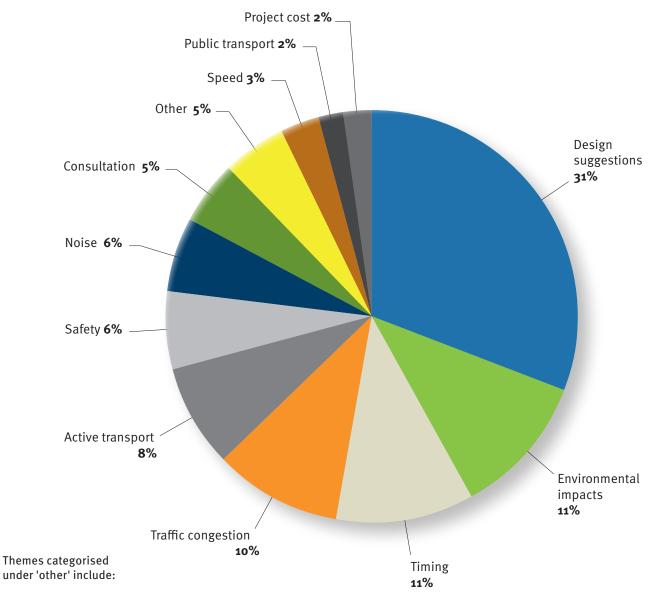


Consultation feedback summary

TMR would like to thank key stakeholders and the community for the feedback provided to-date for the Gateway Motorway and Bruce Highway Upgrades.

The following feedback themes were raised during initial community consultation.

Feedback themes raised



- general property impacts
- land resumption
- cultural heritage
- construction impacts
- employment or training opportunities
- amenity
- flooding.

Some of the comments raised under the top themes included:

Design considerations

- "Additional lanes for increased capacity and future road use."
- "Multiple extra lanes either way."
- "Three lanes between the Gateway Motorway, from Bracken Ridge to Pine River to stop bottle neck."
- "The north facing ramps can't come soon enough. Traffic flow/ congestion is getting worse and around the schools is dangerous at times especially school drop off/pick up times."
- "I think adding more on/off ramps at Dohles Rocks Road would create more congestion to an already congested intersection and it is not needed."

Potential environmental impacts

- "The area that is to be affected by the planned roadworks is also part of the 'Moreton Region Ramsar Site' so we need to be sure that the planning is considerate of all the various wildlife groups that stand to be affected, we can always make another road but native wildlife is not so easy to replace."
- "Look after our large fauna and provide crossings for them."
- "You must consider the wildlife impact for Tinchi Tamba and surrounds. This is a very unique wildlife hub. An asset to the local community with a huge population of kangaroos and exquisite bird life."
- "Please maintain nature/bush land as much as possible."
- "These roads cut several areas of our protected wildlife's habitats, it's extremely important that these animals are protected and able to travel safely from one area to another."

Timing

- "As a local resident I wish it could start sooner. It is desperately needed!!!"
- "Let's get it done as quickly as possible."
- "Hurry up."

Traffic congestion

- "Peak hour congestion makes trips twice as long."
- "Traffic jam every morning and afternoon and weekends."
- "Improve flow of traffic. When it hits 4 lanes all of a sudden everyone hits the brakes."
- "They're very busy most of the time."

Provision for active transport facilities

- "An active transport link is critical to complete the cycleway built as part of previous Gateway Mwy projects."
- "Inclusion of bikeway with lighting and rest stops etc."
- "Bicycle and pedestrian access over Pine Rivers bridge to connect north and south Murrumba/Griffin to Bracken Ridge and Bald Hills."
- "Safe and direct pedestrian and bicycle pathways linking Griffin and Northlakes and connect into rail line pathway."

Safety

- "Safe changing of lanes."
- "Improve ways to reduce weaving across lanes"
- "The criss-crossing to change lanes from Gympie Arterial to left lane to turn off at Dohles Rocks as well as those from Gateway needing to change to right lanes to travel north makes this a dangerous section... an under/over lane work is needed here."
- "Safer and more lanes with more time for people to merge."

Noise

- With the increase in traffic comes an obvious increase in noise.
 The acoustic treatment of these upgrades, and the current infrastructure, is of high importance to me. There are sections that require a lot more sound barriers/softening."
- "Sound barriers erected along full section of the Gateway Mwy, between Bracken Ridge and Pine River and adjacent to southern residential estate."
- "Noise limiting devices for residents in the area."



Next steps

Timing

TMR is continuing with integrated planning for the upgrades, including consideration of the community feedback already received. Business cases are expected to be finalised in 2023.

Due to the significant size and complexity of the project, substantial planning is being undertaken prior to business case development. This involves undertaking a broad range of investigations including transport, hydraulic, natural and built conditions, safety, environmental, cultural heritage, legislative and engineering investigations, on-theground surveys and desktop analysis.

•	2020	Initial planning and community consultation
•	2021	Preliminary evaluations
•	2022	Business case development
•	2023	Business case finalisation

The business cases will determine potential design and construction timeframes. Next stages involving design and construction are subject to approval of the business cases and available funding.

Working with the community

TMR will continue to engage the community with further consultation periods expected as planning progresses. This includes working closely with local community and environmental groups and other key stakeholders during planning.

The project team can also be contacted via the project hotline 1800 607 755* and project email gmbhu@tmr.qld.gov.au

Stay informed

To stay informed about the Gateway Motorway and Bruce Highway Upgrades you can visit www.tmr.qld.gov.au/ GatewayMwyBruceHwyUpgrade or join our mailing list to receive regular updates by emailing gmbhu@tmr.qld.gov.au.

^{*} Free call from anywhere in Australia, call charges apply for mobile phones and payphones. Check with your service provider for call costs.