# Have your say

## Kawana Motorway planning study

Parrearra to Meridan Plains, Sunshine Coast

Newsletter one - November 2021

The Sunshine Coast is one of the fastest growing regions in Australia with the population expected to increase from 357,000 (2016) to 558,000 by 2041¹. The southern Sunshine Coast area (Caloundra to Maroochydore) is planned to accommodate a significant portion of this population growth. This means an increasing demand on our road networks across the region.

#### The current situation

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is undertaking a network study, known as the Southern Sunshine Coast Roads Improvement Study (SSCRIS), to identify problem areas and consider future upgrade needs and priorities in the area.

As part of the SSCRIS, TMR will undertake a \$2.6 million planning study to investigate a new motorway link between Meridan Plains and and Parrearra (known as the Kawana Motorway).

SIPPY DOWNS

Kawana Motorway

Kawana Way
Link Road

WURTULLA

The needs and impacts of the Caboolture to Maroochydore Corridor Study (CAMCOS) are a key consideration for TMR in planning these road connections. Planning has confirmed there is adequate space within the protected CAMCOS corridor to accommodate both road and rail.

The planning study will deliver a business case for the project. This follows previous preliminary investigations, including modelling of forecast traffic volumes, which confirmed the need for a new motorway parallel to Kawana Way.

The Kawana Motorway project will ensure road infrastructure can accommodate traffic demand and sustain ongoing population and economic regional growth. In particular, the project will address rapid urban growth in new emerging communities including Caloundra South (Aura) and Palmview (Harmony).

The Kawana Motorway will provide a direct connection between Parrearra (the planned Mooloolah River Interchange at Kawana Way) and Meridan Plains (Kawana Way Link Road). This will reduce congestion and improve travel times and safety on other major roads in the area including Kawana Way and Nicklin Way, particularly for public transport.

Planning will investigate improvements to be constructed in two stages. This project will include a two-lane road to provide connectivity and reduce congestion, followed by a future four-lane motorway to cater for long-term traffic volumes. TMR will consult key stakeholders and the community on the business case for this and ensure all feedback received is considered in planning.

**Have your say on the Kawana Motorway** www.tmr.qld.gov.au/KawanaMotorway





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>South East Queensland Regional Plan 2017.

## **Connecting our community**

TMR has started an integrated approach to planning and consultation for this project to ensure the best outcomes are achieved for the Sunshine Coast transport network and the community.

Planning for this project will include:

- a new major road to form part of a planned motorway connecting the Bruce Highway to the Sunshine Motorway
- interchanges at intersections to accommodate long-term traffic volumes
- improved access to the Birtinya Town Centre, the Sunshine Coast University Hospital and Sunshine Coast Health Precinct
- active transport infrastructure (pathways and cycle facilities) to improve safety and and encourage walking and bike riding.

## These upgrades will improve:



Safety on the Sunshine Coast main arterial networks



capacity and reduce congestion on important transport routes



travel time reliability, particularly for public transport



active transport for pedestrians and bike riders



connectivity and accessibility for local residents.

#### **Timing**

Stakeholders and the wider community will be engaged as part of the planning study. The business case is expected to be completed in 2023.

## **Planning investigations**

Planning studies involve identifying the current issues and future network requirements. TMR undertakes a broad range of investigations including transport, hydraulic, natural and built conditions, safety, environmental, cultural heritage, legislative and engineering. This may involve on-the-ground surveys.

#### **Business cases**

TMR is required to undertake extensive planning before a project can be constructed. Business cases are one component of this planning, which determine and recommend a preferred option for new projects or upgrades from an engineering perspective, as well as financial, social, legislative and environmental considerations. Once a business case is approved, a project can be considered for funding for detailed design and construction.

#### When is construction?

TMR expects the business case for the Kawana Motorway to be finalised in 2023. The business case will determine potential design and construction timeframes, which would then be subject to approval of the business case and available funding.

Consultation with potentially impacted stakeholders will be ongoing, all the way through to completion of project construction.

#### **Timeline**

2021 Business case planning and first phase of community consultation

2022 Business case development and second phase of community consultation





## Southern Sunshine Coast Roads Improvement Study

This project is part of the \$5 million Southern Sunshine Coast Roads Improvement Study, funded by the Australian Government.

This study will also include development of a business case for the Caloundra Road/Kawana Way Link Road/Bells Creek Arterial Road intersection project.

It will also include a detailed multimodal assessment of the roads in this area and how they connect with each other to prioritise the order of future road network upgrades.

## **Protecting our environment**

TMR is dedicated to minimising potential impacts to the environment or areas of cultural significance from transport projects.

TMR will carefully consider the social, economic and environmental sustainability of the Kawana Motorway and actively engage the community for feedback as part of the planning process.

## Get involved - Have your say

TMR would like to hear your views on planning for the Kawana Motorway and find out what is important to you.

You're invited to participate in TMR's community consultation program and provide your input into planning.

Community feedback about the proposed motorway and possible connections will help inform the planning and design process.

Visit the project website for more information www.tmr.qld.gov.au/kawanamotorway

To request a hard copy survey to be posted to you, please contact the project team on the details below.

## Your input into planning

TMR will engage with the community to help plan a range of future transport infrastructure projects for the Sunshine Coast region. To keep up to date with other projects open for consultation visit www.tmr.qld.gov.au/projects



Scan to find out more

### **Contact us**

**Call:** (07) 5451 7055 (8.30am-5pm)

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