

# Pacific Motorway (M1) Pimpama Interchange (Exit 49) upgrade

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



### What is the Pimpama Interchange (Exit 49) upgrade project?

The Pimpama Interchange (Exit 49) upgrade project will improve traffic flow through the interchange by including a new bridge across the M1 with additional lanes, the upgrade of roundabouts to traffic signals, new signalised intersections and the realignment of the on-ramps and off-ramps to the interchange.

The upgrade will also deliver significant improvements in safety by reducing queuing on the M1 and keeping traffic moving through the improved interchange.

The project is currently in the design phase, with community consultation on the preliminary design taking place in mid 2021.



### What are the benefits of the upgrade?

Once constructed, the upgraded interchange will:

- provide safety benefits to M1 motorists, cyclists, pedestrians and the surrounding local road network
- increase capacity of traffic by constructing a new bridge across the M1 with additional lanes
- increase efficiency by improving traffic flow, reducing queuing and conflict points
- improve reliability of access conditions for freight moments
- improve flood immunity of Rifle Range Road, storm water drainage and water runoff quality
- estimated to support an average of 179 direct jobs over the life of the project.



### When can I see the project design?

Community consultation on the preliminary design is anticipated to occur mid 2021. Details about the consultation sessions, along with the design, will be made available on the project web page.

To find information online, visit [tmr.qld.gov.au](http://tmr.qld.gov.au) and under 'projects' search 'Exit 49 upgrade'.



### I saw the concept design in 2020, is the preliminary design different?

The purpose of a preliminary design is to make improvements to the concept design, based on additional information. Survey works have been undertaken to inform the preliminary design. These have included surveys on noise, ecology, flooding, asphalt, and public utility services in the area.

When the preliminary design is complete and available to be shared with the community, details on any changes to the concept design will be highlighted.



### Why is the Pimpama Interchange being upgraded?

Ongoing, rapid industrial and residential development in the northern Gold Coast area, including Pimpama, is adding pressure to already busy M1 interchanges.

The Exit 49 interchange is currently experiencing delays and safety concerns due to increased traffic congestion from continuing development in the area, close to and adjacent to the M1.



### What does the upgrade involve?

The upgrade will improve safety, reduce queuing and congestion by:

- adding a new bridge across the M1 with additional lanes
- replacing the existing roundabouts with traffic signals
- installing new signalised intersections
- realigning the on-ramps and off-ramps away from the main interchange intersections
- creating new bike lanes and pathways to provide safer travel choices for cyclists and pedestrians.





## How will feedback from community consultation be used?

Feedback received from residents, businesses and stakeholders during consultation will help to inform the detailed design, which is expected to be finalised in late-2021 ahead of construction commencing in 2022.



## How is the project being funded?

\$110.463m is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland governments on a 50:50 basis, with a developer contribution bringing the total project value to \$110.768m as published in QTRIP 2021-22 to 2024-2025



## Who will construct the project?

A competitive tender process will be undertaken to appoint the construction contractor. Construction is anticipated to start in 2022.



## When will construction start and finish?

Construction is anticipated to start in 2022 and finish in early-2024.



## Will there be impacts to how I travel in the area during construction?

Construction impacts, such as temporary speed limit changes, detours and changes to public transport routes and stops, will be managed closer to the time of construction in 2022. Access to local facilities, businesses and housing will be maintained, where possible.

The project team will continue to engage with residents, businesses and stakeholders who may be impacted by the upgrade and construction works. Sign up for traffic alerts and project updates by contacting the project team.



## Is there any additional land required for the new interchange?

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (South Coast Region) is liaising directly with property owners regarding land requirements.



## What are the environmental and noise impacts of this project? How are these being managed?

Managing project impacts is a major priority. Visual amenity, environmental and noise management is being considered throughout the design process. TMR has undertaken the following assessments as part of this process:

- Noise surveys to understand the existing and potential levels.
- Ecological testing to ensure a current baseline is understood.
- Traffic count surveys to ensure the design accommodates the most recent road conditions.
- Review of utilities located in the project area to avoid relocation where possible.
- Geotechnical testing and inspection of high strength rock to inform the most suitable bridge design.

TMR will continue to work with residents, businesses and stakeholders to ensure concerns regarding project impacts are acknowledged and best practice is applied to mitigate them, where possible.



## What noise treatments are planned as part of this project?

To mitigate traffic noise, noise barriers will be installed along sections of Rifle Range Road, Yawalpah Road and the M1. TMR is engaging with residents, businesses and stakeholders who may be impacted by these works.

Installation of noise barriers is based on legislation outlined in the Transport Noise Management Code of Practice that, by law, must be followed when determining appropriate noise mitigation measures.



## What active transport improvements and connections are included in this project?

Active transport connections have been considered in the Pimpama Interchange upgrade, with improvements to be made to pedestrian and bike riding travel options by:

- creating new bike lanes and pathways to provide safer travel choices for bike riders and pedestrians
- improving connectivity between the eastern and western sides of the M1 by creating a dedicated bike lane and pedestrian paths on the bridge.



## What access improvements will be made for people with disabilities?

Features of the upgrade to improve pedestrian accessibility and mobility safety include such things as:

- audio tactile devices at signalised intersections
- kerb ramps at all key crossing locations
- mid-block pedestrian refuges on local roads near connecting interchanges

People with disability and specific mobility needs should contact TMR to discuss their active transport connectivity requirements while the upgrade is underway.

## Contact us

Sign up to receive email or text alerts about the project by contacting the project team.

**Web:** [www.tmr.qld.gov.au/projects/exit49](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/projects/exit49)

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