



Captain Cook Highway

Smithfield Bypass Project

Additional project works announced

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is progressing a \$164 million project to design and construct a new road between McGregor Road roundabout and the intersection of the Captain Cook Highway (CCH) and Cairns Western Arterial Road (CWAR) as an alternative route to the CCH.

Additional funding enables an extension of works to upgrade CWAR to four lanes to the traffic signals at Caravonica State School and the installation of new traffic signals at the intersection of CWAR and Skyrail Drive to ensure safe access to the Caravonica tourism precinct.

An updated [Preliminary Design](#) is available from the project web page and provides further detail of the additional works.

A narrated flyover video showing key features of the bypass design has been added to the project web page. [Watch the flyover video here](#).

Innovative construction practices, such as those used in piling works, and the application of all-weather material is being incorporated into every aspect of the project design and plays a vital role in mitigating program delays during future works and specifically, piling operations.

Piling works for bridges at McGregor Road and Avondale Creek will deliver cost savings using tubular steel piles which are driven approximately 50 meters into the ground.

[Watch a video](#) about the innovative piling technique being used for the construction of Smithfield Bypass.



Smithfield Bypass flyover video



Innovative piling technique video

Project works update

Works completed

- Bridge piling works have been completed at Avondale Creek.
- Significant works have progressed with substantial vegetation clearing, drainage improvements and construction of embankments at the northern end of the Smithfield Bypass where CCH intersects with McGregor Road. Bridge piling works are underway at this location.
- Early works to construct concrete culvert bases for three significant culverts have been completed to allow for construction to continue during wet weather.



Concrete culvert bases constructed



Upcoming works

- Major construction is expected to commence in early April with the start of stage one of a five stage works program to upgrade Caravonica roundabout to a signalised intersection.
- Stage one of the works program involves construction of a new, temporary roundabout, located to the south of the existing Caravonica roundabout.
- Completion of stage one is expected 30 June 2020, weather permitting.
- At the completion of each of the five stages there will be changes to the way motorists travel through this intersection.

Continuing construction

- Current works continue in preparation for bridge piling works and construction of southbound entry and northbound exit ramps at the northern connection of the bypass.
- Installation of the water main and relocation of public services continues.

Environment update

- The project team are currently undertaking a review of the landscape design to ensure species used are native, low maintenance and appropriate for revegetation next to sensitive areas like Cattana Wetlands.
- The project team are also looking to ensure landscaping will provide great scenic amenity with a mix of tropical species. Advice from the Cattana Wetlands volunteer group the Jabirus has helped inform the plant species selected.
- Dust monitoring continues and levels remain within acceptable limits.

Important notices

- Unnamed Road at the northern end of the Bypass corridor will be closed to the public for the duration of the project.
- For the safety of the public and construction crews on site members of the public are reminded to use only the official entry and exit road when accessing Cattana Wetlands.
- Project update subscribers are encouraged to share this project update with anyone who may be interested. People wishing to receive project updates and notices of works can subscribe to the Smithfield Bypass Project Update mailing list by [clicking here](#) or on the [project web page](#) on the TMR website.



Major works to begin to upgrade Caravonica roundabout

Stay Connected

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

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