

Warrego Highway – Mount Crosby Road interchange upgrade

Community update

July 2021

In 2020, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) undertook community consultation on a proposed design for the Warrego Highway – Mount Crosby Road interchange upgrade.

The consultation took place over a four-week period, between July and August 2020, with over 600 individuals, businesses and organisations providing feedback on the design. This was received through a variety of methods including online survey, email, post and phone.

The proposed design was based on a 2017 planning study which used traffic data collected in 2015-16 to identify an option that addressed short-term safety and congestion issues at the interchange.

However, due to a number of factors including changed traffic conditions, increased traffic demand and substantial growth in the local area, the identified option no longer addresses these issues.

Feedback received from the community and stakeholders reinforced the need for a more significant upgrade.

Increased traffic demand at the interchange

Traffic demand at the interchange has increased significantly above average growth in the last five years. This has impacted both roundabouts controlling the interchange during peak periods, causing vehicles to queue back onto the Warrego Highway as well as back along Mount Crosby Road. Increases in the number of rear-end and lane-changing crashes on the Warrego Highway in recent years also correlates with this high traffic growth.

TMR's 2017 planning study identified a potential option to provide short-term relief at the interchange. However, it did not account for the significant growth at the interchange, both in terms of local development as well as the rapid rate of traffic growth on the Warrego Highway, including heavy vehicle usage.

As traffic demand continues to grow at above-average rates, a more substantial upgrade is required to address the medium to long term needs of the community, improve the safety and reliability of the Warrego Highway and align with future planning including the **Warrego Highway East Masterplan**.

The **Warrego Highway East Masterplan (WHEM)** builds on the *Warrego Highway Upgrade Strategy* released by the Queensland Government in 2012 and determines how improvements to the Warrego Highway will be delivered over the next 20 years (and beyond).

Community Consultation Outcomes

What you told us...

Over 600 individuals, businesses and organisations took part in the community consultation. Of those, approximately 70 per cent said they were not satisfied with the proposed concept design.

Key themes included:

- the need for additional capacity at the interchange and additional lanes on the overpass bridge (or an extra bridge)
- the need to upgrade the on and off-ramps in order to increase safety, especially the westbound off-ramp
- significant growth in the area since the planning study was undertaken in 2017 was not reflected in the proposed design
- the need to provide some level of access to and from Coal Road to reduce pressure on the Mount Crosby Road – Junction Road roundabout.

As a result of this feedback and due to substantial changes in traffic conditions at the interchange, TMR is developing additional options for a significant interchange upgrade.

To view the summary report please visit tmr.qld.gov.au/MountCrosbyRoadInterchangeUpgrade



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What happens next...

The *Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program (QTRIP) 2021–22 to 2024–25* shows that the Queensland Government has allocated \$108.614 million state funding contribution towards the \$543.88 million Warrego Highway commitments, noting the Queensland Government's initial priority is upgrading the Mount Crosby Road interchange.

QTRIP also references a \$4 million commitment by the Australian Government and a \$1 million commitment by the Queensland Government to the Warrego Highway – Mount Crosby Road interchange project. This is in order to progress the planning and delivery of an upgrade that appropriately addresses community concerns and better meets the needs of all road users. This process includes a number of stages:

Proposed Timeline

(subject to change)



In the meantime...

TMR will focus on improving safety and increasing efficiency along this busy route. In late 2020, TMR implemented a safety warning and queue monitoring system to reduce the risk of vehicle traffic accidents at this location and will continue to monitor and identify traffic issues at the interchange.

Contact us

TMR is committed to working closely with the community throughout the project and would like to thank everyone who took part in the consultation process.

TMR will further consult the community as the options for a more significant interchange upgrade are developed.

For more information about this project, or to receive project updates, please visit tmr.qld.gov.au/MountCrosbyRoadInterchangeUpgrade or contact the project team via:

Phone: **07 3066 4338** (during business hours)

Email: **metropolitanregion@tmr.qld.gov.au**

Post: **Warrego Highway – Mount Crosby Road interchange upgrade project team,
Metropolitan Region, Department of Transport and Main Roads,
PO Box 70, Spring Hill, Queensland 4004**