

A message from the Regional Director



Welcome to our second edition of Local Links for 2009. To date, 2009 has been a year of change for the North Coast and for the department as a whole.

In March this year the Honourable Craig Wallace MP was sworn in as the new Minister for Main Roads. In the same month, the department underwent a number of machinery of government changes, including the creation of the new Department of Transport and Main Roads.

Over the coming months, the North Coast Region will continue to undergo changes as members of the management team begin establishing more of a presence at the new Sunshine Coast and Moreton offices.

This transition has, and will continue to bring with it new challenges and opportunities for the North Coast and it is essential that during this time we remain focused and continue to deliver our program and maintain our outstanding performance record.

As always, the North Coast has accomplished a great deal since the last Local Links publication.

Significant achievements during this period include:

- » opening of the Pacific Paradise Interchange and Bypass. This project is the final leg of the \$217.5 million Sunshine Motorway upgrade between Maroochydore Road and Pacific Paradise
- » opening of the \$80 million Caloundra Road upgrade between the Bruce Highway and Pierce Avenue
- » opening of the \$75 million new Caloundra-Mooloolaba Road between Caloundra Road and Creekside Boulevard.

Some of the other major projects currently underway in the North Coast include:

- » \$183 million upgrade of the Bruce Highway between Uhlmann Road and Caboolture – expected completion mid-2009
- » \$45.7 million upgrade of Caboolture-Bribie Island Road, between Aerodrome Road and Pasturage Road – expected completion mid-2010
- » \$47.8 million upgrade of Steve Irwin Way between Mooloolah Connection Road and Caloundra Road interchange - expected completion mid-2010.

The department is committed to keeping the North Coast community informed on the progress of these projects. If you have any enquiries or would like further information on these projects, I encourage you to contact the Sunshine Coast or Moreton offices.

Dennis Tennant
Regional Director (North Coast)



North Coast major construction updates

Sunshine Motorway upgrade

Pacific Paradise Interchange and Bypass

The \$217.5 million upgrade of the Sunshine Motorway between Maroochydore Road and Pacific Paradise is now complete, significantly alleviating congestion on one of the coast's major routes.

The final stage of the project, involving construction of the new interchange and bypass at Pacific Paradise, was officially opened on 28 April 2009. The new work is expected to divert 10 000 vehicles per day away from the centre of Pacific Paradise alleviating congestion and improving safety in the local community.

The project commenced on 14 September 2007 with the award of a contract to ARK/Bellero Joint Venture for the construction of two bridges to allow for the duplication of the motorway over David Low Way and two bridges at the new interchange for the Pacific Paradise Bypass, locally known as the North Shore Connection Road.

Bridge work involved the driving of 4 700 metres of prestressed concrete piles, the placement of 2 500 cubic metres of concrete and the installation of 4 400 tonnes of girders and deck units.

A contract for the duplication of the motorway over David Low Way and interchange construction was awarded to Basic Construction Services on 16 October 2007.



Main Roads Minister Craig Wallace, cutting the ribbon at the official opening of the Pacific Paradise Interchange and Bypass



Pacific Paradise Interchange and Bypass

The work, which incorporated almost 1 000 000 cubic metres of embankment and over 42 000 tonnes of asphalt, was completed on time even though the project was delayed by five months due to over 3 200 millimetres of rain falling during the construction period.

Employment on the Sunshine Coast has been boosted with the creation of over 1 000 jobs directly and indirectly associated with the Sunshine Motorway upgrade between Maroochydore Road and Pacific Paradise during the three year period of construction.

Benefits of the upgrade include:

- » doubling the capacity of the Sunshine Motorway
- » improving motorway safety
- » eliminating motorway congestion
- » reducing travel times
- » diverting traffic away from local communities such as Pacific Paradise
- » improving transport links to the Sunshine Coast Airport
- » providing opportunities for the continued development of the Sunshine Coast.

Sunshine Coast tourism has benefited from the close cooperation between the State Government and Sunshine Coast Regional Council in the development of a new four lane access to the airport, streamlining entrance to the terminals.

North Coast major construction updates

Caloundra Road upgrade

Bruce Highway to Pierce Avenue

Work on the \$80 million four lane upgrade of Caloundra Road from the Bruce Highway to Pierce Avenue was completed in April 2009. Main Roads Minister Craig Wallace, officially commissioned the final stage of the upgrade on 16 April 2009.

Caloundra Road is a major east-west corridor that currently carries up to 27 500 vehicles a day and this number is growing at around two per cent each year. The upgrade delivers significant benefits for road users by improving safety and capacity for future traffic growth.

Key features of the upgrade include:

- » four kilometres of new four lane, dual carriageway road to complete the four laning of Caloundra Road
- » a grade-separated interchange at Racecourse Road to make it easier and safer for local traffic to access residential and industrial estates on either side of Caloundra Road
- » an overbridge to connect the local access road over the top of the main road near Jordan Street
- » a roundabout at the intersection with the new Caloundra-Mooloolaba Road.

The overbridge on Jordan Street also incorporates the first fauna bridge and arboreal overpass on the Sunshine Coast. Main Roads worked closely with Mooloolah River Waterwatch and Landcare Inc. (MRWL) to construct the five metre fauna bridge which was planted with native vegetation, hollow logs and rocks to encourage native fauna to cross between the open grazing land on the northern side to the state environmental park on the southern side. Main Roads received a special thank you from MRWL for including the group and allowing them to contribute to the road upgrades in their catchment area.



Steve Irwin Way upgrade

Mooloolah Connection Road to Caloundra Road interchange

The \$47.8 million upgrade of Steve Irwin Way between Mooloolah Connection Road and the Bruce Highway/Caloundra Road interchange commenced in early 2009 and is expected to be completed in mid-2010.

The project will improve flood immunity, increase road capacity and improve safety for road users and involves:

- » duplicating a 3.3km section of Steve Irwin Way from two to four lanes
- » realigning and signalling the Mooloolah Connection Road intersection and installing traffic lights at the Cemex Quarry and Mooloolah Cemetery
- » providing bus stops with sealed bays near Jowarra Park and Mooloolah Connection Road
- » upgrading the existing culvert near Cemex Quarry to a 30 metre two span bridge.

North Coast major construction updates

Caloundra-Mooloolaba Road upgrade

Caloundra Road to Creekside Boulevard

Work on the \$75 million southern section of the Caloundra-Mooloolaba Road (Caloundra Road to Creekside Boulevard) project was also completed in April 2009.

This new 5km road is the first section of the Caloundra-Mooloolaba Road connecting Caloundra Road (near Corbould Park) in the south, to Mooloolaba at the Mooloolah River Interchange.

Key features and benefits of the project include:

- » construction of a new two lane road from Caloundra Road to Creekside Boulevard
- » construction of three bridges over the Mooloolah River and Currimundi Creek flood plain between Caloundra Road and Woodland Boulevard
- » a major 250 metre long concrete overbridge and approach road at Meridan Way/Sunset Drive to provide access over the new state-controlled road for local residents. This local road and overbridge will ultimately provide access to Sunshine Coast Regional Council's future Meridan sports fields
- » provision for future upgrading to six lanes
- » increased road capacity to reduce congestion on Nicklin Way and cater for future growth
- » provision of an alternate route to/from locations in the southern part of the coast
- » improved access to Kawana Town Centre
- » improved safety for motorists with divided carriageway
- » times savings for motorists travelling between Caloundra and Mooloolaba.



Southern service road overbridge including fauna crossing



Caloundra-Mooloolaba Road between Woodland Boulevard and Caloundra Road, looking south.

The Caloundra-Mooloolaba Road is part of the integrated transport network for the Sunshine Coast. It will support increasing tourism, commerce and residential growth. Other major related initiatives include the following works.

- Multi-Modal Transport Corridor (MMTC): a road and future public transport corridor that will link Caloundra Road, near Corbould Park, with the Sunshine Motorway at the Mooloolah River Interchange. This corridor will serve vehicle, public transport, pedestrian and cycle needs. The Caloundra-Mooloolaba Road is located within this corridor.
- CAMCOS corridor: the CAMCOS corridor provides for a future heavy rail link between Beerwah and Maroochydore Airport. North of Creekside Boulevard, it is included within the MMTC. South of Creekside Boulevard the CAMCOS corridor deviates to the east.
- Kawana Way: is a new road that connects the Sunshine Motorway to Kawana and will extend down to Creekside Boulevard, as development occurs. It is linked to Nicklin Way at Kawana Island Boulevard, Main Drive, Lake Kawana Boulevard and, ultimately, Creekside Boulevard - Erang Street.
- SM2032 Study (Sunshine Motorway): this study sought to identify improvements needed to the Sunshine Motorway to cater for expected traffic demand by the year 2032.

North Coast major construction updates

Bruce Highway upgrade

Uhlmann Road to Caboolture

Construction of the \$183 million Bruce Highway upgrade from Uhlmann Road to Caboolture is nearing completion with work expected to be completed in mid-2009, weather permitting.

This vital upgrade project is the final stage of the Federal Government's \$361.3 million commitment to upgrade the Bruce Highway from four to six lanes from the Gateway Motorway to Caboolture.

Construction started in December 2007 and includes:

- » upgrading the existing four lane highway to a six lane, median divided standard
- » a major upgrade of the Caboolture-Bribie Island Road interchange including provision of an anti-throw screen and dedicated pedestrian and cyclist facilities
- » widening of the Captain Whish bridges from two to four lanes in each direction
- » upgrading the highway access at the Buchanan Road interchange, the Uhlmann Road interchange and the BP service centres
- » installation of wire rope median barriers to reduce the potential for cross-median crashes.

Key benefits of the upgrade include:

- » improved transport and road freight efficiency with a reduction in congestion
- » improved safety for all road users, including motorists, pedestrians and cyclists.



Caboolture-Bribie Island Road upgrade

Aerodrome Road to Pasturage Road

Work to upgrade this high priority section of Caboolture-Bribie Island Road started in early 2009 and is expected to be finished in mid-2010.

The \$45.7 million upgrade includes:

- » widening a 1.6km section of Caboolture-Bribie Island Road from two lanes to a median-divided four lane road with additional stand-up lanes between Aerodrome and Pasturage roads
- » replacing the Aerodrome Road roundabout with a signalised intersection
- » installing traffic signals at the Pasturage Road intersection
- » constructing two metre high noise barriers along the boundaries of nearby residences
- » upgrading public transport facilities
- » providing a large sediment basin to improve the quality of the storm water run off.

The project also includes significant provisions for cyclists and pedestrians, including:

- » a pedestrian activated crossing at the intersection with Aerodrome Road
- » on-road cycle facilities on Caboolture-Bribie Island Road
- » a concrete footpath to connect with the path already being constructed on the Bruce Highway overpass.

Contact

If you would like further information about any North Coast Region projects, you can:

- » phone the office on 5482 0333
- » send a fax to 5482 0465
- » send an email to -

sunshinecoast.office@mainroads.qld.gov.au
(for projects in the Sunshine Coast Regional Council) or

moreton.office@mainroads.qld.gov.au
(for projects in the Moreton Bay and Somerset Regional Councils)