

A message from Main Roads



The Bundaberg District Office of the Wide Bay Burnett Region services an area of 37,130 square kilometres, comprising some 2002 kilometres of state controlled roads.

These roads service a broad range of communities and industries.

The Wide Bay Burnett has experienced strong growth in recent years. To meet the challenges brought about by this growth Main Roads has been addressing:

- traffic capacity issues and upgrading roads and intersections in our growth areas.
- safety initiatives to improve road safety across the road network.
- the need to increase the maintenance and replacement of our aging timber bridges to meet a growing freight task.
- widening narrow roads and strengthening weak pavements to meet the needs of a higher traffic volume.

The projects in the newsletter are examples of the variety of work occurring from the Bundaberg District Office.

Doug Wass
A/Regional Director
Bundaberg District Office
Wide Bay Burnett Region

Safer Roads Sooner

\$1.67 million for safer roads

Minister for Main Roads Mr Warren Pitt has announced the Burnett and Wide Bay area will receive \$1.67 million under the Safer Roads Sooner program.

The funding is part of the 2008-09 to 2012-13 Roads Implementation Program (RIP).

State-wide, \$55.425 million will be spent on 88 new Safer Roads Sooner projects and two new mass action programs to improve safety for road users.

The projects include:

- \$300,000 in 2009-10 for intersection improvements at Elliott Heads Road / Sims Road / Churchward Road in Bundaberg City. Works include installing a right-turn lane, providing a concrete kerb outstand, improving sight lines and aligning side streets.
- \$35,000 in 2009-10 to begin a \$70,000 project to protect a culvert with a guardrail on Bundaberg - Miriam Vale Road (Bundaberg - Lowmead Road), near Avondale Pub in Burnett Shire.
- \$1.3m in 2009-10 for shoulder widening, delineation and renewing line marking on Maryborough - Hervey Bay Road in Hervey Bay City.

Bridge replacements

The Southern Queensland Accelerated Road Rehabilitation Project (SQARRP) is replacing 29 bridges in Southern Queensland at a total cost of \$126.5 million with 17 of the bridges being in Wide Bay Burnett Region for an expected cost of \$78.313 million.

Construction of the first bridge started on 3 April 2006, at Sandy Creek in Isis Shire.

So far three of the bridges are complete (Sandy Creek – Isis Shire, Fat Hen Creek- Kilkivan Shire and Philpott Creek – Mundubbera Shire).

A further five are currently under construction (Woowoonga Creek - Biggenden Shire, Boonara Creek No. 4, Coppermine Creek, Crooked Bridge Creek and Wide Bay Creek – Kilkivan Shire).

Construction on the remaining nine bridges is expected to begin between April 2008 and August 2008 (Nangur Creek No 2 and No. 3, Widgee Creek – Kilkivan Shire, Littabella Creek, Mullet Creek, Yandaran Creek Cockatoo Creek – Burnett Shire, Wagners Gully – Kolan Shire, Gregory River on the Isis Highway and Goodwood Road - Isis Shire).

All of the 17 bridges are expected to be completed by May 2009, weather permitting. When complete the width and approach alignment to the bridges will be much improved, providing better safety for road users.



The old timber bridge at Fat Hen Creek, with the new bridge in the background.



The new Fat Hen Creek bridge.

Gladstone-Monto Road

A \$1.4 million project on the Gladstone-Monto Road involves sealing five remaining gravel sections between 2km south of Kalpower and 600m south of Walkers Creek Road.

The project started construction in December 2007 and is due for completion in early 2009.

When complete, there will be a completely sealed road between Gladstone and Monto.

The upgrade will improve access and amenities for the communities and provide increased road safety.

Shoulder widening is due to start at the end of this month on a 4.4 km section of the Burnett Highway at Coomingleah Range 14km west of Monto.

The project is expected to cost \$244,000 and should be complete by the end of April, weather permitting.

These works are being undertaken to maintain the condition and safety of the road.

Bundaberg Ring Road



The site for the new bridge crossing at FE Walker Street looking north. The crossing is part of the Bundaberg Ring Road project.

Construction on the Queensland Government's \$92m Bundaberg Ring Road began in mid-November 2007 and is progressing well.

The first stage — 7.4km from Bargara Road to Goodwood Road — is on target to finish by the end of February 2009.

Tenders for stage two — from the Isis Highway to Goodwood Road — are expected to be called this month (March 2008) with construction planned to start in June 2008.

When built, the Ring Road will provide motorists with an alternative route around Bundaberg, ease congestion on inner-city streets and make it easy to get from east to west.

The new 10m-wide bitumen sealed road, will have two single-span bridges over an irrigation channel, two three-span bridges over Bundaberg Creek and three new sets of traffic signals and other intersections upgraded at various locations.

Boat Harbour Drive, Hervey Bay

The new traffic signals at Central Avenue were switched on 15 December 2008.

The \$1.7 million project has improved traffic flow and safety for motorists and pedestrians.

Construction on the \$10 million state-funded project on Boat Harbour Drive between Hunter and McNally streets is expected to start within the next three months.

The upgrade includes one kilometre of four laning, eight intersection upgrades including two new sets of traffic signals at Taylor Street and Banksia Park Drive and a new road surface.



Traffic signals at Central Avenue have improved traffic flow and pedestrian safety.

Intersection upgrade

The \$1.3 million Safer Road Sooner project to realign and upgrade the Bunya Highway and the Burnett Highway intersection, 1.8km south of Goomeri was completed on 28 November 2008.

The project involved realigning and widening the road, reshaping of the T-intersection, resurfacing the road and installing new lighting.

Maryborough intersection upgrade

The intersection of Alice and Adelaide streets in Maryborough is set to receive a \$135,000 upgrade.

The aim of this project is to reduce vehicle accidents and improve safety for pedestrians crossing Alice Street.

Construction is expected to start in mid-2008.

This follows the recent completion of the \$3.5 million project to upgrade the Ferry and Alice streets intersection in Maryborough.

The upgrade involved widening the intersection by adding separate turning lanes, resulting in less waiting time for motorists at the lights and improved traffic flow in all four directions.

Mundubbera-Durong Road

A project to widen the pavement at two sections on the Mundubbera – Durong Road, 29.36km and 42.2km from Mundubbera, is due to begin in mid-May 2008.

When completed, the project is expected to cost \$723,000.

This project will improve road safety for motorists by widening the existing narrow single-lane road to a two-lane roadway that provides overtaking lanes with adequate visibility.

Improved road conditions will increase transport efficiency and reduce maintenance costs.

For more information

Phone: 4154 0200

Fax: 4152 3878

Email: www.WideBay@mainroads.qld.gov.au

How can I stay safe around roadworks?

- Slow down and keep to the reduced speed limit.
- Keep an eye out for roadworkers. They don't have a vehicle to protect them.
- Observe the roadwork signage. If you don't see someone working there, they may be out of view.
- Stay calm. Be patient.
- Expect the unexpected.
- Speed limits may be reduced, so drive to the limit.
- Traffic lanes may have changed, so take care.
- Be alert. Always follow road signs and roadworkers' instructions.
- Keep a safe distance between your vehicle and other vehicles, traffic barriers, construction equipment and roadworkers.
- Expect the unexpected.
- Look for an alternate route.

