MEDIA STATEMENT

21 May 2019

Permanent ramp closure for Rocklea to Darra upgrade

The Ipswich Motorway Upgrade between Rocklea and Darra is continuing to progress with the permanent closure of the westbound exit ramp to Rudd and Douglas Streets, Oxley scheduled to occur next month (early June 2019).

Transport and Main Roads Director General Neil Scales said the closure represented the next important milestone, helping to improve safety and traffic operation by reducing the number of merging and weaving movements on this section of the motorway.

"This exit ramp is the third of four permanent ramp closures planned, reducing the number of accesses and bring the remaining ones up to the latest standards," Mr Scales said.

"The Rudd/Douglas Street exit ramp closure will affect traffic wishing to access these streets from the Ipswich Motorway, towards Ipswich.

"Diversions and signs will be in place and access to local businesses and residences will be maintained."

Mr Scales said he was pleased with the progress of the upgrade works.

"The most important benefit of upgrading this section is the Ipswich Motorway will be safer to travel on," he said.

"The upgrade will provide wider traffic lanes and shoulders, longer entry ramps and less merging.

"Completing these works under traffic and within such a constrained corridor takes a tremendous amount of planning and scheduling.

"With more than 85,000 vehicles travelling through this section of the motorway every day, for a project that is only 3kms long there is a lot of activity.

"I ask motorists to remain alert through these important roadworks, be aware of the changes to traffic conditions and drive safely."

Timing of the works is subject to weather and construction conditions.

This \$400 million project is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland governments on a 50:50 basis.

For up-to-date information on road closures and traffic conditions for this project and across Queensland, visit www.131940.qld.gov.au or call 13 19 40.



The community can also stay up to date by subscribing to the project's newsletter by visiting tmr.qld.gov.au/rocklea2darra1, by emailing <u>contactus@r2d1.com.au</u> or calling the project team directly on 1800 204 990.

ENDS

Media contact: TMR Media Unit, 3066 7060