

# MEDIA STATEMENT

28 May 2021

## Speed limit reduced on Stuart Drive, Idalia

The speed limit on Stuart Drive, between Mervyn Crossman Drive/Fairfield Waters Drive roundabout and Bowen Road Bridge, has been reduced for safety reasons.

Transport and Main Roads North Queensland Regional Director Sanjay Ram said the limit had been reduced from 70km/h to 60km/h to improve safety for motorists, pedestrians and bike riders, while also meeting road planning and design standards.

"The 60km/h speed limit reflects the built-up environment along this section of Stuart Drive, with the busy Fairfield Waters shopping precinct on one side and playing fields, sporting clubs and two local schools on the other," Mr Ram said.

"We have listened to locals who have raised concerns about the safety of school-aged children, in particular, who regularly cross this busy section of road.

"The Speed Management Committee has undertaken a speed limit review, which considers a range of factors such as road function, roadside environment, construction standards, prevailing traffic speeds and crash history.

"The committee includes representatives from the Queensland Police Service, Townsville City Council and the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

"The speed limit is now in force and we ask all motorists to slow down in this area and adhere to the reduction."

Mr Ram said this was just the first step in improving road safety and capacity along the busy, urban, arterial road.

"We committed \$46.4 million in 2020 towards major upgrades to Stuart Drive, between University Road and the Mervyn Crossman Drive/Fairfield Waters Drive intersection," he said.

"These upgrades include replacing the roundabout with a signalised intersection at the Mervyn Crossman Drive/Fairfield Waters Drive intersection, upgrading Stuart Drive to four lanes between this intersection and University Road, and safety upgrades for pedestrians and bike riders, including wider paths, better connections and safer crossings.

"Detailed design is expected to start mid-2021, with works due to start mid-2023."

For more information, visit [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au).

**ENDS**

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