MEDIA STATEMENT

17 March 2021

New Maroochydore Road interchange bridge getting decked out

Works to upgrade the Maroochydore Road interchange are well underway as part of the \$301.25 million Bruce Highway Upgrade – Maroochydore Road and Mons Road Interchanges project.

Upgrading this busy interchange will deliver a range of traffic and safety improvements for motorists, pedestrians and the local community.

Transport and Main Roads North Coast Regional Director Scott Whitaker said the project would significantly improve the traffic flow and capacity of the Maroochydore Road and Mons Road interchanges.

"The traffic will improve particularly during peak times, as well as meet the future needs of the Sunshine Coast," Mr Whitaker said.

"As part of the upgrade, the existing Maroochydore Road / Nambour Connection Road roundabout will be signalised. The interchange ramps will be extended and widened to provide sufficient queueing space and ramp signals will be installed to help regulate traffic flow.

"A new, four-lane, eastbound bridge over the Bruce Highway from Nambour Connection Road to Maroochydore Road will be also be built. The two-span concrete bridge will feature an on-road bike lane and a three-metre shared pedestrian path to improve safety and local connectivity.

"Concrete girders and decking units for the bridge will be installed in the coming weeks, with the majority of work undertaken at night to minimise disruption to motorists and traffic flow."

Mr Whitaker said motorists should observe all signs when approaching roadworks, adapt to the changed traffic conditions and allow for extra travel time.

"Temporary southbound and northbound lane closures on the Bruce Highway, detours, traffic controllers, reduced speed limits and road signage will be in place to ensure the safety of road workers and motorists," he said.

"We appreciate the public's ongoing patience and co-operation whilst this important road project is underway."

Mr Whitaker said further traffic changes were programmed for the project over coming months.

"I strongly encourage the community to subscribe to the free SMS and email service to stay up-to-date date on the project," he said.

The project is expected to be completed by late 2022, weather and construction conditions permitting.

The Bruce Highway Upgrade – Maroochydore Road and Mons Road Interchanges project is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland governments on an 80:20 basis, with the Australian Government contributing \$241 million and the Queensland Government contributing \$60.25 million.

The upgrade is estimated to support average of 382 jobs over the life of the project.



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For more information and to register for project updates, visit <u>https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/projects/bruce-highway-maroochydore-road-and-mons-road-interchanges</u>.

For up-to-date information on road works across the state, visit <u>www.qldtraffic.qld.gov.au</u>, call 13 19 40 or download the app.

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