

Bruce Highway Upgrade

Caboolture-Bribie Island Road to Steve Irwin Way (Exit 163)

Construction notice
December 2022
Ref: CN29

Project update – December 2022

The year in review

With a La Niña weather event declared at the end of last year, the start of 2022 delivered unprecedented levels of rainfall that shut the Bruce Highway between 25 and 28 February 2022. During the last week of February, over 800mm of rain fell, bringing the total in the first 14 months of construction to over 3m.

After site clean-up and repairs, construction got back on track, delivering the major milestone of all highway traffic now travelling on new flood-free highway carriageway between Caboolture-Bribie Island Road and Steve Irwin Way (Exit 163).

Key project milestones and achievements for 2022 include:

- constructed and opened five new southbound highway bridges—Six Mile Creek, Un-named Creek, Beerburrum Creek, King John Creek, and Lagoon Creek. All bridges have been raised to provide 1-in-100-year flood proofing
- realigned the Steve Irwin Way entry ramp and Pumicestone Road exit ramp onto their final design alignments
- switched southbound highway traffic onto the new alignments. In May, the upgraded southbound carriageway opened between Pumicestone Road and Caboolture-Bribie Island Road, and in November it opened between Steve Irwin Way (Exit 163) and Pumicestone Road
- temporarily switched all northbound highway traffic onto the new southbound carriageway to start construction of the upgraded northbound carriageway and bridges
- demolished all old northbound highway bridges to start construction of new structures. Piling of the new bridges at King John and Lagoon creeks is completed, and installation of deck units on Lagoon Creek is underway.

Looking ahead to 2023

Key activities to be completed in early 2023 include:

- completing construction of new northbound King John and Lagoon creek bridges
- piling activities for the three new northbound highway bridges at Six Mile Creek, Un-named Creek, and Beerburrum Creek and construction of the bridge sub-structures
- establishing a second site compound on the western side of the highway in the northern section of the project
- switching northbound highway traffic between Caboolture-Bribie Island Road and Pumicestone Road onto the final northbound carriageway
- commencing pavement works along the western side of the highway, north of Pumicestone Road.

All works are subject to weather and construction conditions.



Realigned northbound and southbound traffic looking north from Pumicestone Road



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Carbul dreaming – indigenous engagement in action

A hard hat adorned with artwork by renowned First Nations Indigenous artist Melisa Bond is promoting cultural awareness and sparking important conversations in the community about indigenous engagement.

The Carbul Dreaming artwork, commissioned by construction contractor Fulton Hogan, is the story of Carbul the carpet python, who created the pathways that helped guide the Kabi Kabi people from one part of our country to the next. The Kabi Kabi people are the traditional owners of the land on which the Bruce Highway Upgrade project in Elimbah is situated.

The hard hat, which is given to team members in recognition of hard work, is helping to promote a deeper understanding and strong connection to indigenous culture through the storytelling of shared values and connection to Country.



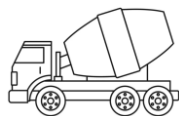
Carbul Dreaming hard hat designed by Melissa Bond

Project fast facts for 2022



Over 2600mm of rain, with almost 40 per cent of this falling in February

14,900m³ concrete poured - enough to fill almost six Olympic sized-swimming pools



178,000 tonnes of asphalt placed

Cranes installed 429 deck units on 10 bridges



Working with the local community

A highlight for the project team has been the continued work with community organisations in the local area. Building these strong connections have given the team the opportunity to get to know the locals and make a difference in the community. This year, community initiatives included:

- supporting the Caboolture Community Action group again with the annual Christmas Cheer Food Drive for the homeless and less advantaged
- partnering with the Beachmere Community Garden to help establish the first community garden in Beachmere. An arbour, to be finished in early 2023, will be the main feature of the garden, with visitors to walk through the arbour structure, which will be surrounded by sensory food plants
- welcoming several student groups to site to share knowledge, promote career pathways in the civil construction industry
- joining with Friends of Lagoon Creek, Reclink, and Moreton Bay Regional Council to design, construct and install nest boxes for different species.

We look forward to continuing our work with these groups during 2023.



The team that installed nest boxes near Lagoon Creek in November 2022

Holiday closure period

Construction will temporarily cease over the Christmas and New Year holiday period. Work will restart in early 2023. For safety reasons, the 80km/h speed limit will remain in place due to changed traffic conditions.

We thank you for your patience and co-operation while we deliver this significant Bruce Highway Upgrade.

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