

## Bruce Highway Cairns Southern Access Corridor

# Stage 3: Edmonton to Gordonvale Project

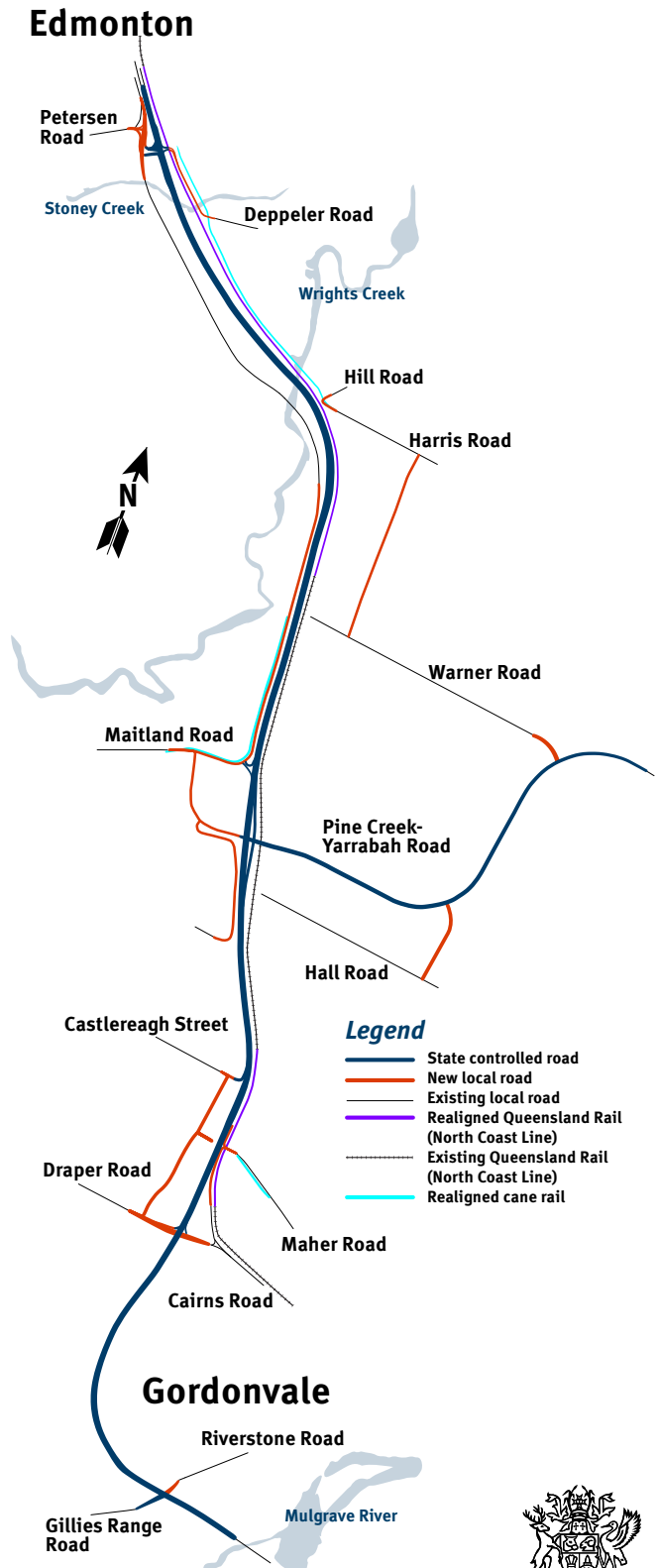
The Bruce Highway – Cairns Southern Access Corridor – Stage 3: Edmonton to Gordonvale Project will duplicate a 10.5-kilometre section of the highway to create a four-lane highway from Edmonton south to Gordonvale.

This \$481 million project is part of the Bruce Highway Upgrade Program, a multi-billion dollar program of works to improve safety, flood resilience and capacity along the Bruce Highway from Brisbane to Cairns.

The program is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments, with the Australian Government contributing up to \$10 billion and the Queensland Government contributing up to \$2.6 billion.

The project scope includes:

- duplication of all existing two-lane sections of the Bruce Highway between Edmonton and Gordonvale to four lanes
- a new alignment for the Bruce Highway to the eastern side of the existing highway between Petersen Road and Warner Road
- a new signalised intersection at Petersen Road and upgraded signalised intersections at Draper Road and Riverstone Road
- new service roads to remove local trips from the highway
- realignment and upgrade of the Queensland Rail North Coast Line to accommodate the duplicated highway
- removal of multiple at grade rail crossings and upgrade of boom gates at other crossings
- new road and rail bridges at Wrights Creek and Stoney Creek
- new Bruce Highway overpass south of Maitland Road connecting Pine Creek-Yarrabah Road and Maitland Road
- relocation of existing cane rail lines at locations to accommodate the duplicated highway
- a dedicated off-road high-speed cycleway from Riverstone Road to tie into the existing pathway at Thompson Road
- several intersections and direct accesses to the existing Bruce Highway will either be partially closed or removed to improve traffic flow and increase road safety on the highway
- changes to the highway completed through this project will allow the posted speed between Edmonton and Gordonvale to be 100km/hr.



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Queensland Government

Works commenced late May 2020. The project is expected to be completed by mid-2023, weather permitting.

This project is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments, with the Australian Government contributing up to \$384.8 million, and the Queensland Government contributing up to \$96.2 million.

An average of 466 direct jobs will be supported over the life of the project.

## Why is it needed?

This section of the Bruce Highway is the busiest two-lane section of the Bruce Highway between Brisbane and Cairns. It also has a poor road safety record with seven fatalities in nine years and crashes at intersections at volumes 6.6 times higher than the Bruce Highway average.

The project will deliver long term improvements to traffic flow and road safety south of Cairns.

## What will happen to the old highway?

Some sections of the existing Bruce Highway between Edmonton and Gordonvale will become a service road. The remainder will be re-used as part of the new Bruce Highway.

## Contract award

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) awarded the design and construct contract to John Holland Seymour Whyte AECOM Joint Venture (HSA Group).

TMR assesses and awards contracts in accordance with a very strict procurement process.

The tender assessment process included consideration of contractor compliance with the Queensland Charter for Local Content, which aims to provide all businesses with full, fair and reasonable opportunities to tender for Queensland Government procurements.

Infrastructure projects of this scale require specialised skills and experience and TMR requires contractors for projects of this nature to be prequalified under the National Prequalification System for Civil (Road and Bridge) Construction Contracts.

## Opportunities for local businesses

TMR understands the importance of ensuring local contractors have access to government-led opportunities.

Anyone interested in being involved in this project should contact HSA Group directly.

## Project works

As the project duplicates much of the existing highway, most of the works will occur to the side of the existing road, allowing traffic to flow while construction occurs, minimising traffic impacts.

Once completed, the improved traffic flow will assist transport efficiency.

TMR is committed to engaging with the community about this project and encourages feedback.

TMR will continue to consult with the community throughout the life of the project.

## Active transport

A dedicated off-road, high-speed cycleway will be constructed from Gordonvale, alongside the new highway, to connect with the existing pathway near Thomson Road in Edmonton.

## How will the project manage noise impacts?

TMR will work with HSA Group to minimise the overall impact of construction activity on the community.

## Stay Connected

### For project enquiries:

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\* Free call from anywhere in Australia, call charges apply for mobile phones and payphones. Check with your service provider for call costs.

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