Toowoomba Second Range Crossing

The Government is providing $321.25 million over five years to build a second range crossing that will virtually eliminate heavy vehicle highway traffic from the Toowoomba CBD.

The Toowoomba Second Range Crossing (TSRC) is a $1.666 billion, 41-kilometre route that is one of the Government’s top three infrastructure priorities. Its national significance is in its contribution to Australia’s road network, improving freight efficiency, safety, reliability and capacity. It will provide a vital link between the resource-rich Surat Basin and the international gateways and labour and services markets in South East Queensland.

The TSRC will cut up to 40 minutes from travel time across the range for heavy and super heavy commercial vehicles and avoid up to 14 sets of traffic lights. Residents will experience increased livability and safety as heavy vehicles are taken out of the CBD.

For the economy, TSRC is forecast to directly generate around 1,800 jobs (full time equivalent) during its three-year construction, and 750 jobs over a plan of operations. It is also expected to increase the productivity of the Toowoomba region by $2.4 billion (net present value over 30 years).

The Australian Government will provide $1.285 billion for the TSRC over four years from 2014-15 – the largest regional road infrastructure investment in Queensland’s history.

This work will also play an important role in strengthening regional communities by generating jobs and catering for future growth. An upgraded Warrego Highway will provide substantial economic benefits to producers and livestock transporters alike, supporting the region’s strong tradition of agricultural production.

As a vital link in the transport system for both Queensland and Australia, a long-term plan for investment in the Highway is a positive step forward in supporting regional communities and economies. This investment will enhance productivity and livability of both Queensland and Australia. It will support Queensland’s export industries, agricultural and tourism sectors and is critical in developing the Surat Basin energy province.

Ongoing planning and investment will create jobs and provide vital support in building stronger Queensland regions, which are essential to a prosperous future for the state.

The $24.5 million to upgrade sections of the Warrego Highway between Toowoomba and Miles is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Government at a total cost of $63.5 million.

Warrego Highway Upgrade

The Warrego Highway is one of the state’s most vital pieces of transport infrastructure. Its upgrade will ensure the Highway continues to serve regional Queensland for decades to come.

The Queensland Government’s aim is to increase the standard of the Warrego Highway to a more efficient, safer and reliable highway with greater capacity, safety and heavy vehicle efficiency and better route reliability and connectivity by addressing high-risk flood prone sections.

This work will also play an important role in strengthening regional communities by generating jobs and catering for future growth. An upgraded Warrego Highway will provide substantial economic benefits to producers and livestock transporters alike, supporting the region’s strong tradition of agricultural production.

As a vital link in the transport system for both Queensland and Australia, a long-term plan for investment in the Highway is a positive step forward in supporting regional communities and economies. This investment will enhance productivity and livability of both Queensland and Australia. It will support Queensland’s export industries, agricultural and tourism sectors and is critical in developing the Surat Basin energy province.

Ongoing planning and investment will create jobs and provide vital support in building stronger Queensland regions, which are essential to a prosperous future for the state.

The $24.5 million to upgrade sections of the Warrego Highway between Toowoomba and Miles is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Government at a total cost of $63.5 million.
A STRONG PLAN FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Darling Downs

Royalties for the Regions

The Queensland Government has committed $495 million over four years from 2012 for community infrastructure, roads and flood mitigation projects across Queensland’s regions.

Royalties for the Regions ensures regional communities receive real long-term benefits through better planning and infrastructure investment. The program is helping communities better manage the impacts of resource sector development and ensures they remain liveable and sustainable well into the future.

To date, Royalties for the Regions has approved over $296 million to support 93 infrastructure projects, with a total cost of over $601 million, across 38 regional and shire councils. These include:

- 34 community infrastructure projects including 20 water, sewerage and waste management projects, six regional airport upgrades, two telecommunications projects, and other projects that will provide a variety of community facilities
- 40 projects to provide critical road safety and access improvements across regions impacted by resource development
- 16 flood mitigation projects that will provide levees, upgraded town drainage and road and bridge upgrades to improve access and safety
- 3 projects to support essential community services including two new childcare facilities and a new medical centre.

Investment in these projects is critical to managing growth and improving the liveability of resource communities.

The Darling Downs region will benefit from $106.3 million for 30 projects in the Balonne Shire and the Goondiwindi, Maranoa, Toowoomba and Western Downs Regional Council areas, including road upgrades, flood mitigation works and waste management facilities.

Darling Downs energy network

- $159.8 million for regulated network refurbishment, load energy management, asset replacement, and reliability and augmentation works for the Darling Downs energy network.

Murray Darling Basin

- $200,000 for water quality management under the Murray Darling Basin Plan.

Social housing

- $7.9 million to expand and improve social housing.

Sewerage and water infrastructure, Roma

- $5.9 million to upgrade sewerage and water infrastructure in Roma.

Darling Downs flood mitigation

- $12.6 million to support flood mitigation projects.

Chinchilla service centre

- $2.4 million to develop the Chinchilla Multi-Tenant Service Centre.

Chinchilla, Nanango police stations

- $1.6 million to complete upgrades of Chinchilla and Nanango police stations.

MRI services for Toowoomba

- $500,000 to start planning for MRI services at Toowoomba Hospital.

Sport and recreation clubs

- $411,100 for the Get in the Game initiative to help sport and recreation organisations develop facilities to support active club membership.

Library resources

- $1.4 million for resources for public libraries.

Oakey flood warning

- $64,000 to complete early flood warning systems in Oakey.

Mt Carmel Road

- $438,000 to repair Mt Carmel Road.

Recovery and reconstruction

- $192.4 million for local government authorities for recovery and reconstruction projects in partnership with the Australian Government.

Toowoomba Second Range Crossing

- $30.4 million from the Australian and Queensland Governments for the $1.606 billion Toowoomba Second Range Crossing.

Southern Queensland Correctional Centre

- $1.5 million to convert the Southern Queensland Correctional Centre into a women’s prison.

Warrego Highway

- $24.5 million, in partnership with the Australian Government, for the $635 million program of safety, capacity and infrastructure works on the Warrego Highway between Toowoomba and Miles. The first section to be duplicated is from Nugents Pinch Road to west of Chariton.

Injune-Taroom Road

- $7 million to upgrade Injune-Taroom Road.

Year 7 moving to high school

- $34 million of up to $42.3 million for education facilities at Centenary Heights, Dalby, and Warwick State High Schools, Toowoomba State High School (Wilsonston Campus), and for a new secondary school at Highfields as Year 7 joins high school in 2015.

Energy supply in Warwick, Stanthorpe

- $3.7 million of $20 million to boost and reinforce energy supply at Warwick and Stanthorpe.

Toowoomba flood mitigation

- $1.8 million to reduce flood hazard to residential and commercial buildings adjacent to Goggs Street, Toowoomba.

Gatton aquatic facility

- $125,000 for an aquatic facility at Gatton.

Gatton-Esk Road upgrade

- $6.6 million for the $8.7 million upgrade of the Gatton-Esk Road, north of Gatton, due for completion in July 2016.

Mt Carmel ambulance station

- $2.5 million to complete the ambulance station and relief quarters at Pittsworth.

Pittsworth fire and rescue

- $1.2 million to complete the $1.3 million Pittsworth auxiliary fire and rescue station.

Library resources

- $1.4 million for resources for public libraries.

Gatton aquatic facility

- $125,000 for an aquatic facility at Gatton.