

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 1455**

**Asked on Tuesday, 30 August 2016**

**MR WHITING** asked the Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy, Biofuels and Water Supply (HON M BAILEY) —

### **QUESTION:**

Will the Minister advise on how work is progressing at the Boundary Road overpass on the Bruce Highway and the expected time when the bridge girders will be in place?

### **ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for Murrumba for the question.

Construction is progressing well on the \$100.4 million Boundary Road/Bruce Highway interchange upgrade with piling for the new bridge recently completed and works continuing on the new on- and off-ramps.

Work started in late April 2016 and the project is forging ahead with the existing interchange ramps now realigned, allowing bulk earthworks for the new ramps and construction at the new six-lane bridge overpass to progress.

Locals will have noticed significant haulage activity in the area as material is moved around the site to reach the ground levels required for the new roads and ramps. The majority of construction activities are now being undertaken behind traffic barriers, minimising impacts of construction for motorists on the Bruce Highway.

The new six-lane bridge, dedicated pedestrian/cyclist pathway, and upgraded on- and off-ramps will transform this interchange, moving traffic quicker and greatly benefiting local commuters, cyclists, pedestrians and businesses.

In addition to boosting the interchange's capacity and enhancing safety for motorists, improvements for pedestrian and cyclist access will be catered for with shared user bridges and footpaths included as part of the upgrade.

The Boundary Road interchange continues to experience high traffic volumes given how close it is to the expanding North Lakes retail and business precinct. The delivery of this project will significantly relieve congestion for the 20,000 vehicles using the interchange on a daily basis.

The new bridge will be built to the north of the existing interchange and will be six lanes wide, with four through lanes (two eastbound and two westbound) and dedicated left slip-lanes to provide access to the Bruce Highway on-ramps. The new bridge will be significantly larger than the existing 40-year-old bridge overpass.

The next important milestone for the project is constructing bridge piers and then installing 68 pre-cast concrete bridge girders which will take place later this year. Installing the bridge girders is a significant construction activity and will require temporary lane closures on the Bruce Highway outside of peak periods. The girder installation is currently scheduled to take place from late October 2016 and continue into December 2016, weather and construction conditions permitting.

It will take about 3000m<sup>3</sup> of concrete and 50,000 tonnes of asphalt to construct the new interchange and more than 220,000m<sup>3</sup> of earth will be imported to build the required embankments.

The project remains on track for completion in mid-2018. My department appreciates the patience of the community and motorists during these important works.

The Australian Government has committed \$80.3 million to the \$100.4 million project, with \$20.1 million provided by the Queensland Government. More than 100 jobs will be created during the life of this project.