

MEDIA STATEMENT

9 April 2021

Trial tests innovative repairs

A trial is underway using innovative engineering techniques to determine the best way to repair the Gore Highway between Pittsworth and Millmerran.

Transport and Main Roads Southern Queensland Regional Director Kym Murphy said the works would add value to how roads on flood-prone, highly reactive soils were repaired into the future.

"The first stage of this \$17 million project will involve a trial of sustainable road systems and products to determine the optimum treatment in this environment," Ms Murphy said.

"Subsequent stages will be able to use the trial results to determine the best road treatment which ultimately results in the best outcome for motorists and taxpayers.

"The Condamine River floodplain, south-west of Toowoomba, is a challenging road-building environment due to soils that rapidly expand and contract under changing weather conditions."

Ms Murphy said the project would repair sections of the highway between Pittsworth and Millmerran.

"The stage one trials will be done on a 1.5km section of the Gore Highway between Brookstead and Pampas," she said.

"We will look closely at the trial results to see what we can apply to subsequent works being undertaken between Pittsworth and Millmerran by mid-2023.

"This section of the Gore Highway is particularly susceptible to flooding so we are optimistic the trial results will lead to a more robust road over time."

Department representatives will soon talk to local property owners and community members who could be affected by the works.

This project is being delivered under the Roads of Strategic Importance early works program.

The program is funded 80 per cent by the Australian Government and 20 per cent by the Queensland Government.

For more information, visit tmr.qld.gov.au

ENDS

Media contact: TMR Media Unit, 3066 7060