

MEDIA STATEMENT

8 June 2022

Active transport upgrades for Jimboomba

New footpaths and active transport connections are on their way for Jimboomba residents.

Early works to make walking, bike and scooter riding safer are being delivered as part of the \$53 million Mount Lindesay Highway upgrade between Johanna and South streets.

Transport and Main Roads South Coast Region Acting Regional Director Andrew Wheeler said the joint-funded upgrade would widen the highway to four lanes and improve safety for all road users.

"Before the main works start, new facilities for pedestrians and riders will deliver real benefits for the community," Mr Wheeler said.

"One of the great features will be a new pedestrian and bike underpass along the disused rail corridor.

"It will provide a safe, east-west connection for active transport users and, importantly, remove the school crossing on the highway.

"Encouraging more people, including school kids, to walk or ride results in significant health and environmental benefits."

Mr Wheeler said SEE Civil had been awarded the contract for early works, which included:

- A shared pedestrian and bike path along the western service road to replace the existing footpath
- A new pedestrian crossing on Cusack Lane, with lighting installed
- A shared pedestrian and bike path with new lighting along the disused rail corridor connecting the service road to Cross Street

"These works are an important step towards main construction starting on the highway upgrade," he said.

"As well as building the pedestrian and active transport facilities, vegetation will be cleared so utilities and services can be relocated in readiness for main construction.

"Getting these preparations done will mean a quicker start once the main contract is awarded."

Mr Wheeler said upgrading the highway to four lanes would deliver safer and more reliable journeys for all roads users.

"Mount Lindesay Highway is a key north-south connection for the region," he said.

"Investment in road safety saves lives, reduces trauma and ensures people get home safer and sooner.

"That is why we are investing more than \$180 million as part of the Mount Lindesay Highway – 10-year forward plan (2018-2028)."

The \$53 million Mount Lindesay Highway Johanna Street to South Street upgrade is funded on an 80:20 basis with the Australian Government contributing \$42.4 million and the Queensland Government contributing \$10.6 million.

An average of 70 jobs will be supported over the life of the project.

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