MEDIA STATEMENT

16 January 2024

Plans underway to replace Wide Bay Creek bridge

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is underway with planning to investigate options for upgrading the 85-year-old Wide Bay Creek bridge on Kilkivan—Tansey Road.

Kilkivan—Tansey Road is a key freight and tourist route linking the Wide Bay Highway to the Burnett Highway. Wide Bay Creek bridge is single lane and currently has an excess mass restriction.

TMR has been looking at options for constructing a new, wider and higher bridge on a new alignment to improve flood immunity, safety and traffic efficiency.

There is currently no funding for detailed design work or construction of a new bridge, however the planning phase investigations will identify a preferred option for the bridge and assist TMR in assessing the project's priority status for future funding.

TMR will continue investigations over the coming months, including preliminary environmental and heritage assessments and consultation with adjacent landowners.

The planning phase is expected to be complete in early 2024.

For further information, please contact TMR on 1300 728 390 during business hours or email <u>bundaberg.office@tmr.qld.gov.au</u>

Quotes attributable to the Regional Director TMR Southern Queensland Region Bill Landsbury:

"TMR is planning several high priority road transport planning projects in regional areas to improve road safety and transport efficiency and boost our agricultural industry who rely heavily on a safe and efficient road network.

"TMR will continue to keep the community informed about the project as it progresses."

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