

# Environment and Cultural heritage

## Factsheet



Artist's impression: Burleigh Ridge Park land bridge for fauna.

Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 4 will deliver a 13km extension south of the Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 3, linking Burleigh Heads to Coolangatta, via the Gold Coast Airport. The Queensland Government has committed \$1.5 million to undertake the *Gold Coast Highway (Tugun to Coolangatta) Multi-modal Corridor Study*. A further \$5 million jointly funded by the Queensland Government and City of Gold Coast has been committed to undertake a Preliminary Business Case for Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 4 from Burleigh Heads to Coolangatta, via the Gold Coast Airport.

The Gold Coast Highway is located along significant and iconic environmental landscapes. Planning for a reliable and sustainable public transport system, that protects our environmental and cultural heritage values now and into the future, is a priority.

## Burleigh Head National Park

Released in 2020, the *Gold Coast Highway (Burleigh Heads to Tugun) Multi-modal Corridor Study*, confirms that Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 4 will follow the existing alignment of the Gold Coast Highway and preserve Burleigh Head National Park. Planning will be undertaken to improve access to the southern entrance of the National Park via active travel, light rail, bus and car.

The *Gold Coast Highway (Burleigh Heads to Tugun) Multi-modal Corridor Study* also identified the opportunity to establish an environmental land bridge between Burleigh Head National Park and Burleigh Ridge Park, reconnecting the Burleigh to Springbrook ecological corridors for local fauna, including koalas. This would provide a long-term solution to allow local fauna to safely cross the Gold Coast Highway away from cars. Opportunities to improve fauna connectivity at other locations such as Currumbin and Tugun will be explored during the current project planning stages.

## Minimising impacts to the environment long-term

Throughout all phases of the project, detailed environmental investigations and studies will be undertaken to ensure all potential impacts and environmentally significant areas are identified and appropriately managed. This includes ensuring that all Australian and Queensland governments' statutory requirements related to the environment are satisfied.



**Did you know** expanding access to high quality public transport is a proven way to reduce car use and its associated emissions?

People who live in communities with accessible public transport tend to own fewer vehicles and drive less. Providing new and improved dedicated active pathways means people can bike or walk to school, cafes and services safely and improves accessibility.



## Cultural heritage

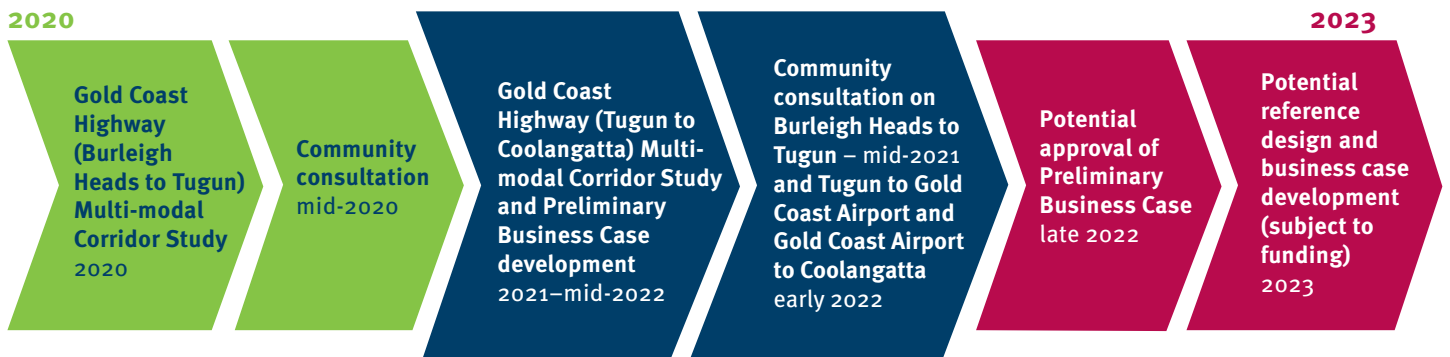
As planning progresses, our team will work closely with members of the local Indigenous community to carefully identify and protect valued and unique cultural heritage sites along the alignment.

The project team will work closely with the Department of Environment and Science and Jellural Aboriginal Cultural Centre at Burleigh Heads to maintain this important cultural centre in its current location, and address car parking and ongoing access.



Artist's impression: Active transport bridge, including bike riding, across Tallebudgera Creek.

## Project timeline



## Get involved and have your say

The Department of Transport and Main Roads will be consulting on the Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 4 planning from mid-2021 to mid-2022.

We would like to hear your views and find out what is important to you. You are invited to participate in our community consultation program to find out more about planning for the Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 4 and provide your input.

### Provide your feedback online



Visit the interactive community consultation website to find out more about the project and provide your feedback.

Visit: [www.tmr.qld.gov.au/gclr4](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/gclr4)



### Talk to us in person

The project team will be holding community drop-in sessions to enable you to ask questions and provide face-to-face feedback on Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 4 planning.

Visit the website to find out drop-in session locations and times for the first round of consultation for the Burleigh Heads to Tugun section.

Visit: [www.tmr.qld.gov.au/gclr4](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/gclr4)

## Contact us

If you would like further information about Gold Coast Light Rail Stage 4 or to register for updates, please contact the project team:

Phone: 1800 316 365\*

Email: [gclr4@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:gclr4@tmr.qld.gov.au)

\*Check with your service provider for call costs.