

MEDIA STATEMENT

29 April 2024

Flood repair works start on Bowenville–Norwin Road

- Major flood recovery works have started on Bowenville–Norwin Road on the Darling Downs.
- Sustainability through the reuse of existing materials is a key focus of this project.
- Works will continue over the coming year to restore the road.

Flood recovery works, led by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) and co-funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments, have commenced in the Darling Downs region.

Bowenville–Norwin Road was damaged by a series of disastrous weather events between November 2021 and May 2022.

The swelling and shrinkage of the highly reactive black soil in the area affected the entire pavement due to repeated flooding, water ponding and saturation. Recovery works will reconstruct the road pavement between two kilometres north of West Prairie Road and Toowoomba–Cecil Plains Road.

Jointly funded through the Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA), this project builds on the temporary repairs made shortly after these significant rain events to make roads safe and trafficable until full reconstruction could be completed.

TMR has been developing longer-term design options to meet the challenges of this flood-prone road, and works will include repairing the road surface, removing silt and debris, repairing erosion damage and repairing or replacing culverts.

Quotes attributable to the Transport and Main Roads Regional Director, Southern Queensland Region, Mr Bill Lansbury:

"We understand the importance of this transport route to the local agricultural community, and we are working to deliver these works as quickly as possible.

"With recent increases in construction costs, including raw materials, re-using the existing on-site materials where possible will deliver value for money on this significant project.

"The secondary benefit is we don't need to remove materials from site or bring them in from quarries, which would put extra strain on the local road network."