

MEDIA STATEMENT**11 January 2024****Seeking feedback on the bridge over the Balonne River, Surat**

- The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is looking at options to upgrade the approaches and bridge over the Balonne River, Surat.
- The bridge over the Balonne River is on the Carnarvon Highway (Surat – Roma) just north of the township of Surat.
- TMR will be seeking feedback from residents, businesses and industries on how previous flooding events have affected them.

TMR is planning to enhance the infrastructure around the Balonne River Bridge. The primary goal is to develop options to upgrade both the bridge and its approaches.

To ensure that the upgrade plans align with the needs and experiences of the community, TMR is organising a community information session in Surat, at the Hub on 18 January 2024 from 9am to 4pm. This session will provide a platform for community members and businesses to share their insights, experiences, and suggestions related to the impact of flooding events.

Quotes attributable to the Regional Director (Southern Queensland) Mr Bill Lansbury:

“I am pleased to announce the commencement of the planning phase for the upgrade of the bridge over the Balonne and its approaches in Surat”.

“This initiative aims to improve infrastructure resilience and address the impact of flooding events on the Carnarvon Highway (Surat-Roma) north of the Surat Township”.

“The experiences and feedback from the community are integral in guiding the upgrade of the bridge and its approaches”.

“I ask residents and businesses in Surat to keep an eye out for an email being released by TMR confirming this information. Your feedback and input is important.”

Explainer/fast fact and or further information (when required/relevant):

The information session will be held at ‘The hub’ in Surat on Thursday 18 January 2024. An email will be sent to known Surat community residents, business and industries after the media statement is released.

ENDS