

# Rockhampton Ring Road



The Rockhampton Ring Road is a long-term, visionary project for the Bruce Highway. It will unlock future economic growth and deliver significant benefits including improved flood resilience, freight efficiencies and road safety, and reduced travel times.

In early December 2022, the Australian and Queensland governments agreed to get the first construction phase of Rockhampton Ring Road underway in 2023.

A package of work grouped into North and South location sites has been developed and construction is underway.

## North Package 1

- Construct the ring road section between the Bruce Highway / Rockhampton–Yeppoon Road intersection and Monier Road embankment, including a crossing of Limestone Creek.
- Works required for the realigned Boundary Road, McLaughlin Street, existing Boundary Road, and Monier Road access.
- Construct accesses for Dreamtime Cultural Centre, Queensland Ambulance Service and Queensland Fire and Emergency Services precinct.

## South Package 1

- Rockhampton–Ridgeland Road upgrade including Canoona Road intersection, replacement of Lion Creek bridge, modifications to Osborne Road, and construction of the Ridgeland Road–Osborne Road roundabout with a stub for future connection to the ring road.

- Upgrade of Nine Mile Road / Rockhampton–Ridgeland Road intersection.
- Preload of embankment between the Capricorn Highway and Abutment A of Bridge BR04 (over soft soils).

The Rockhampton Ring Road alignment provides a western link of the Bruce Highway, extending from the Capricorn Highway (at Nelson Street) in the south through to Bruce Highway / Rockhampton–Yeppoon Road intersection in the north.

This will include a new crossing of the Fitzroy River. The project will improve connectivity to priority facilities, services and precincts in Rockhampton by increasing the number of access points to the city.

The Bruce Highway is Queensland’s major north-south freight and commuter corridor and stretches over 1,673km connecting coastal population centres from Brisbane to Cairns.

The existing Bruce Highway through Rockhampton is one of the remaining pinch points between Brisbane and Cairns, with 19 sets of traffic signals to navigate.

Traffic volumes on the Bruce Highway in Central Queensland range from 2,600 vehicles per day in rural sections to 35,000 vehicles per day in urban centres. An average of 2,640 heavy vehicles travel through Rockhampton daily.



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**FLEXIBILITY** / JRT are proven civil contractors with experience across a wide range of industries, including infrastructure and residential development, rail, mining, energy, industrial and commercial projects.

## Benefits

- Improves safety
- Increases capacity
- Improves network efficiency
- Increases traffic flow
- Reduces peak hour congestion
- Better road access
- Reduces travel time
- Contributes to regional growth
- Improves ride quality
- Improves flood immunity
- Contributes to economy

## Key Features

- 17.4 km of new roadway including approximately 14.7 km of ring road alignment.
- New crossing of the Fitzroy River between Pink Lily and Kawana.
- Connections into West Rockhampton in the vicinity of Ridgелands Road, North Rockhampton at Alexandra Street, and the Bruce Highway intersection with Rockhampton—Yeppoon Road at Parkhurst.
- Continued access to the road network during major flooding.

## Current Status

Construction of the first phase of the Rockhampton Ring Road project is on the way with contracts awarded to Bielby-BMD Joint Venture and Acciona-Fulton Hogan Joint Venture.

This initial phase includes \$280 million in upgrades across location-based packages in the north and south of the project footprint. Construction is on track to start in late 2023.

The Australian and Queensland governments have committed \$1.065 billion to the Rockhampton Ring Road under the Bruce Highway Upgrade Program (BHUP). The Australian Government's commitment is \$852 million.

The northern package focuses on the ring road's connection with the Bruce Highway at the Rockhampton—Yeppoon Road intersection in Parkhurst.

A new section of road and embankment will be constructed from the Bruce Highway west to Monier Road, on an alignment between the existing emergency services precinct and the Dreamtime Culture Centre.

New accesses will be constructed for the Dreamtime Cultural Centre, Queensland Ambulance Service and

Queensland Fire and Emergency Services precinct.

Upgrades to local roads that will ultimately connect with the ring road, including existing and realigned sections of Boundary Road, McLaughlin Street and Monier Road access, will also be delivered by Bielby-BMD Joint Venture.

The southern package has two work locations in the West Rockhampton and Pink Lily area.

Upgrades on Rockhampton—Ridgелands Road will include Canoona Road intersection, the replacement of Lion Creek Bridge, modifications to Osborne Road and construction of the Osborne Road-Ridgелands Road roundabout with provision for future connection to the ring road.

The Rockhampton—Ridgелands Road and Nine Mile Road intersection will also be upgraded.

In addition, the southern package awarded to Acciona-Fulton Hogan Joint Venture will include pre-loading the ring road embankment just north of the connection with the Capricorn Highway, to accommodate the future Fitzroy to Gladstone Pipeline.

Construction on this phase is expected to be completed in the 2025–26 financial year.

## Design

The Rockhampton Ring Road design extends from the Capricorn Highway in the south to Rockhampton—Yeppoon Road in the north and contains both rural and urban sections.

The ring road concept and detailed design were developed with a high level of flood immunity, similar to a 1-in-100-year

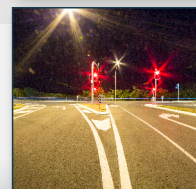


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flood event and equivalent to 9.86m on the Rockhampton flood gauge in the Fitzroy River (a 1% annual exceedance probability).

The design includes features, such as bridges and culverts at key locations along the Rockhampton Ring Road, to manage water flow and minimise the impacts of changes in anticipated flood levels as far as practicable.

### Environment

The Rockhampton Ring Road project is committed to the protection and sustainability of our unique Fitzroy River Flood Plain environment, culture and heritage. The project team aims to tread lightly, minimise and mitigate impacts, and replenish or enhance where possible.

The Environmental Management Plan (EMP) has been developed to identify performance outcomes and management measures to minimise potential impacts to environment associated with the construction and operation of the project.

### Culture and Heritage

The department recognises the significance of different cultures and the importance of managing Indigenous, historical, shared and natural heritage.

Engagement with the Darumbal People is a priority to appropriately address cultural considerations.

All reasonable practical measures to avoid harming Aboriginal heritage and the conservation of places and areas entered in the Queensland Heritage Register will be taken.

### Rockhampton Ring Road Fully Funded

The commitment will deliver the full 17.4 km Rockhampton Ring Road, with an increased Australian Government commitment of \$1.2 billion and an increased Queensland Government commitment to \$530 million.

This transformative project for Central Queensland will increase connections to key precincts in the city and improve access, travel times to critical services including the hospital and emergency services, and road safety.

The ring road alignment opens up new travel routes to key leisure, retail, education and defence facilities.

The Rockhampton Ring Road project is a once in a lifetime opportunity to build capability within the regional workforce, with an extended pipeline of road infrastructure construction that provides opportunities for apprentices and trainees, engineers and technical services to be engaged on this significant infrastructure build.

Construction on the first \$280 million package of works started in November 2023. Both contractor joint ventures mobilised to site in November to start construction at key work locations in Parkhurst and on Rockhampton-Ridglands Road in West Rockhampton.

Construction on this phase of the Rockhampton Ring Road is expected to take up to two years to complete.

This significant investment by the Australian and Queensland governments is a long-term, visionary project for Queensland's biggest highway, the lifeline for the state of Queensland that will unlock future economic growth, build flood resilience, reduce travel times, improve road safety and support jobs.



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Cutting Edge Graders is a 100% owned and operated indigenous business.

Cutting Edge Graders is renowned for its extensive experience with local government road maintenance projects that a federally funded project. They have proven their expertise in a wide range of services, from routine road repairs to comprehensive grading and sheeting operations.

Cutting Edge Graders has a reputation for safety, precision work, reliability and value for money. The company's knowledge of and experience with terrains in the Bowen and Surat Basins, Central and Western Queensland helps to inform clients about the suitability of different terrain for planned civil construction work.

### Equipment

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- Road Train
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The Rockhampton Ring Road will be a critical new artery for Central Queensland, and the broader Bruce Highway. "It means a safer and quicker drive for locals and more productive travel for our transport sector, moving freight around the State.

When complete, big trucks will avoid 19 sets of traffic lights through the middle of Rockhampton, which has long been regarded as the pinch point for travel on the Bruce Highway. That is critical for Queensland's economic growth.

The Australian Government's commitment to fund and deliver ensures that Rockhampton and the Central Queensland region can maximise both the economic and human benefit from the project, building capability and skills in the region.

### Local Contractors

To maximise local engagement, Local Buy targets are embedded in the contract, and throughout the contract development process the importance of engaging local businesses and resources has been prioritised with the contractor joint ventures.

Local sub-contractor engagement on the Rockhampton Ring Road project is already tracking well.

The target for local engagement on this first construction package is more than 80 per cent of sub-contract value awarded to local business. While its early days for construction delivery, on South Package 1 contract value awarded to local businesses is already at 85 per cent.

Further opportunities for engagement on the project will be available as the delivery strategy for the full scope of the project is confirmed and further packages of work are released to the market.

### Subcontractors and Suppliers

Fencing (Contract)	Dunphy
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Kerb & Channel	Brewcon Construction
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Materials Testing	ASCT
Piling	Caporn Piling
Plant Hire	All Round Civil
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Gas Main Protection Frp	Brewcon Construction
Surveyors	ESO Surveyors
Quarry - Bound Gravels & Rock	Hopkins Bros
Quarry - Unbound Gravel	Regional Group Australia
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As part of the first stage of the project, RGA has supplied the main roads with a total volume of 37,000 tons of road base materials. These materials, including Types 2.1, 2.3, and 2.5 road base, have played a crucial role in building roads, access tracks, and hardstands throughout the project. All materials provided have undergone rigorous testing and have been proven to meet the stringent specifications set by the Queensland Department of Transport & Main Roads.

Impressively, RGA was able to meet the high demand for construction materials on the project, delivering 1,800 tons in a single day. Furthermore, the quarry managed to deliver 4,800 tons in a single day to fulfill the requirements of multiple customers.

These figures highlight the company's commitment to efficiently and effectively meeting the needs of its clients.

What sets RGA apart is its dedication to assisting not only councils and large contractors but also smaller private customers.

With 14 quarries operating in Queensland, able to service the Gladstone to Emerald area, they have the capacity and expertise to cater to a wide range of construction projects. Their full-service solution, which includes quarry products, gravel, crushing and screening, concrete products, and transport operations, ensures that clients receive comprehensive support throughout their projects.

Their involvement in the project showcases their commitment to delivering quality products, services, and advice.

As a trusted supplier, they continue to play a vital role in the development of major infrastructure projects along the east coast of Australia.

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