Installing bridge girders and temporary traffic changes between Chatsworth Island and Mororo

Roads and Maritime Services, Pacific Complete and its contractor partners are working together to deliver the Woolgoolga to Ballina Pacific Highway upgrade.

During February and March, the project team will be installing bridge girders over the Pacific Highway and also making temporary traffic changes on the Pacific Highway between Chatsworth Island and Mororo.

**Installing girders**

Work is progressing well on building bridges for the Iluka interchange, Chatsworth Road North overpass and Chatsworth Road South overpass bridge with foundations, support structures and abutments nearly complete.

Girders will be installed over the Pacific Highway for these three overpass bridges from February, weather permitting. While the girders are being installed, traffic will need to be stopped in both directions multiple times for up to 10 minutes throughout the night.

Motorists will be kept informed about dates for these lifts through electronic message signs along the highway and livetraffic.com.au.

**Temporary traffic changes**

Work is almost complete on the new road between Iluka Road and the Pacific Highway, Mororo. This road will eventually be the southbound off ramp from the Iluka interchange.

When the new temporary intersection for Iluka Road and the Pacific Highway opens, it will include acceleration and deceleration lanes for northbound and southbound motorists.

At this time, the direct access between Garretts Lane East and the Pacific Highway will be permanently closed.
This new traffic arrangement will allow us to maintain capacity on the road network while we safely continue to build southbound lanes and the final Iluka interchange.

To allow for safe access into bridge work areas north and south of the new bridge over the Clarence River North Arm at Mororo for construction vehicles, there will be a minor change to the alignment of the Pacific Highway. While this work is being carried out, there will be a temporary speed limit of 60km/h. Electronic variable speed limit signs will be used to increase the speed limit to 80km/h when it is safe to do so.

Motorists will be kept informed about dates for these traffic changes through electronic message signs along the highway and livetraffic.com.au.

How we manage our work
The project team will use machinery that generates noise, light and vibration. To manage this work, we will:

- direct temporary lighting down and away from homes
- locate equipment such as generators as far as possible from residences
- turn off machinery when not in use
- plan activities to minimise noise from reversing vehicles
- monitor noise so we can manage any potential impacts and adjust our work, as required.

All work will be carried out in line with the project’s Conditions of Approval and Construction Environmental Management Plan.

Work hours
Typically work will be carried out during the project’s approved construction hours, which are:

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<th>Approved construction hours</th>
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<td>Monday to Friday 7am–6pm</td>
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<td>Saturday 8am–5pm</td>
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In areas where residents live more than 200 metres from the work, extended approved work hours are allowed between 6am and 7am and 6pm and 7pm from Monday to Friday. No work will be carried on Sunday or a public holiday.
Work outside of approved construction hours
To complete the temporary traffic changes and install bridge girders, work is required outside approved construction hours. This work is planned between 6pm and 7am for up to four nights in each location, weather permitting.

Building next to, over and on existing roads may require traffic to be stopped or reduced to one lane while work is carried out. By working at night, delays are minimised and journey times for motorists are less affected.

Traffic changes
Traffic will be stopped in both directions, multiple times for up to 10 minutes throughout the night while bridge girders are being installed. Alternative routes are available via the Bruxner Highway and Summerland Way between Grafton and Ballina for motorists wishing to avoid these delays.

Access for emergency services and property owners and residents will be maintained at all times, however there are likely to be some minor delays.

To manage traffic queuing and safety, there will be a lane closure that may affect travel times. Please obey speed limits and follow the direction of traffic controllers and signs. Motorists are encouraged to remember PAC – Plan, Awareness, Caution. For the latest traffic updates, you can call 132 701, visit livetraffic.com or download the Live Traffic NSW app.

We apologise for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience during this important work.