

# Tewantin Bypass Stage 1

## Cooroy-Noosa Road and Beckmans intersection upgrade

### How did Council select this intersection to be upgraded?

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) agreed to plan, design, and construct the Tewantin Bypass as part of the *Noosa Demaining Agreement 2000*. With its ongoing safety concerns and congestion, planning identified the Cooroy-Noosa Road and Beckmans Road intersection as the first location to be upgraded as part of this agreement.

### What is the demaining agreement?

In 2000, Noosa Council and TMR made an agreement to transfer ownership of a series of previously state controlled roads, including David Low Way (from Emu Mountain Road north) and sections of Eumundi-Noosa Road, to Noosa Council. As part of this agreement, Council was responsible for constructing Walter Hay Drive and Eenie Creek Road, while TMR was to contribute to the effectiveness and efficiency of Noosa's road network, including the planning, design, and construction of a Tewantin Bypass.

### How long will detailed design take to complete?

The project is funded by the Queensland Government through TMR. Council is undertaking design through a funding agreement with TMR. Detailed design will be completed by June 2021. The design process for a major intersection is complex and includes many stages, including site investigations and site assessments for geotechnical, environmental, and cultural heritage elements, geometric road design, and developing options for electrical and service relocations.

### What does the intersection upgrade consist of?

Council is undertaking design of a new two-lane roundabout that will improve travel time, particularly during peak periods and reduce the risk of crashes at this location. The project also includes active transport features such as on-road bike lanes, an off-road shared pathway, and pedestrian refuges for safer crossings.

### Why is Council installing another roundabout to upgrade the intersection?

The use of roundabouts instead of traffic signals is a deliberate point of difference in Noosa Shire, as roundabouts blend with the environment rather than dominate it and provide a high level of service at all times. Roundabouts generally result in fewer motor vehicle crashes than intersections that contain traffic signals, STOP, or Give Way signs. The layout and design of roundabouts encourage drivers and cyclists to enter the intersection slowly and give way to vehicles approaching from the immediate right-hand side of the roundabout.

### When will the intersection upgrade be constructed?

Construction is expected to start in 2021-22. It is expected that Council will undertake construction through a separate funding agreement with TMR.

### Will the new intersection impact on the National Park?

The Queensland Government uses a legislative framework and strict guidelines around preserving protected areas and forest reserves. State Parliament has agreed to revoke the protected status of a one-hectare section of Tewantin National Park to establish the new roundabout. Two sections of land in the National Park currently allocated as road reserve will become part of the National Park as part of the compensation deal.

### What is going to happen to Beckmans Road in the meantime?

Beckmans Road is a Council asset and Noosa Council will continue to maintain it. The road is tentatively scheduled for resealing in the five-year program.