



Warren Truss REPORTS



May 2016 Edition

Pages 2 & 3
Bruce Highway & local projects update



Pages 4 & 5
Truss delivers for Wide Bay

Page 6
Working for Wide Bay

Page 7
NBN update Wide Bay Survey

Page 8
LNP's jobs action plan



WARREN TRUSS says THANKS

On 11 February 2016 I announced my intention to retire from the Australian Parliament at the next election.

It has been a great privilege to serve the electors of Wide Bay and the people of Australia in the House of Representatives. I was first elected in 1990 making me the longest serving Member for Wide Bay. It was an honour to become Deputy Prime Minister and Queensland's second longest serving Federal Minister ever.

There is still much to be done, but I am proud of what has been achieved, particularly the reconstruction of the Bruce Highway, including the Gunalda Range crossing, four lanes through Gympie, the Cooroy to Curra upgrade, safety and flood immunity works, and the new Tinana interchange to begin next month.

The Liberal Nationals Government has also supported a significant number of projects in the electorate, including the construction of Maryborough's Brolga Theatre, The Noosa J, and the aquatic centre in Gympie.

While big ticket items may grab headlines, my greatest sense of service has come from helping local people with their problems and achieving a good outcome, be it with Centrelink, the Taxation Office, Veterans Affairs, or Immigration.

I thank my electors and the people of Australia for the opportunities they have given me to serve. I have many happy memories and I hope that people may be kind enough to recognise that I have made a contribution towards building a better Wide Bay and improving our nation.

Warren Truss

Tributes from the Leaders

Warren's leadership of the National Party has been a great source of wisdom...as well as a source of great stability and generosity. He has been a formidable advocate, as he said, for his local area and electorate.

Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, Prime Minister

When they think of Truss they will think of decency, a decent man, a gentle man, a good man.

Hon Barnaby Joyce MP, Deputy Prime Minister

Thanks to him the Bruce Highway is undergoing the biggest upgrade in its history.

Hon Tony Abbott MP, former Prime Minister

You have been a tireless servant of your constituency, a proud advocate for country people and a strong leader of the party that you have always loved.

Mr Bill Shorten MP, Leader of the Opposition

Hansard, 11 February 2016

The House of Representatives stands to acclaim Warren Truss for his service on the announcement of his retirement



Contact Warren

Hon Warren Truss MP Federal Member for Wide Bay

PO Box 283
MARYBOROUGH QLD 4650
Web: www.warrentruss.com

319 Kent Street
MARYBOROUGH QLD 4650
Email: W.Truss.MP@aph.gov.au

Phone: 07 4121 2936
Fax: 07 4122 3968
Tollfree: 1300 301 968



Bruce Highway update, work begins on Cooroy to Curra Section C



Work has now started on the \$384.24 million Cooroy to Curra Section C project, widening the Bruce Highway to four lanes between the Traveston interchange and the proposed Woondum interchange, south of Gympie.

Section C is the third of four major Bruce Highway - Cooroy to Curra upgrade projects, with Section A from the Cooroy Southern interchange to Sankey's Road nearing completion, Section B between Federal and Traveston completed in 2012, and Section D where planning and detailed design is underway from the Woondum Interchange to Curra.

The new highway will be safer, faster, and less prone to flooding and capable of meeting road and freight and transport needs in the region well into the future.

An average of 684 direct jobs will be supported by the project.

\$50 million to plan Section D

The Australian Government has committed \$40 million towards the design work of Section D of the Cooroy to Curra four lane upgrade, between the Woondum Interchange and Curra.

"The Section D project is the final but largest section of the 61 kilometre upgrade between Cooroy and Curra. This funding further demonstrates my commitment to fixing this notorious stretch of the Bruce Highway," Warren said.

The design of the 26 kilometre Section D project includes a bypass of Gympie with the corridor running east of the town, close to the railway line until Old Maryborough Road, then along the edge of Curra State Forest. The detailed design phase of this project will allow for further refinements to the planning layout for Section D, and will produce the final project design layout expected to be completed by late next year.

The Queensland Government is contributing a further \$10 million to the planning study.

Tenders called for Tinana Interchange

Tenders have now been called for the \$38 million Bruce Highway - Tinana Interchange upgrade project just south of Maryborough.

"This is a major project for Maryborough that will replace a dangerous interchange with a safer and more inviting approach to the Fraser Coast," Warren said.

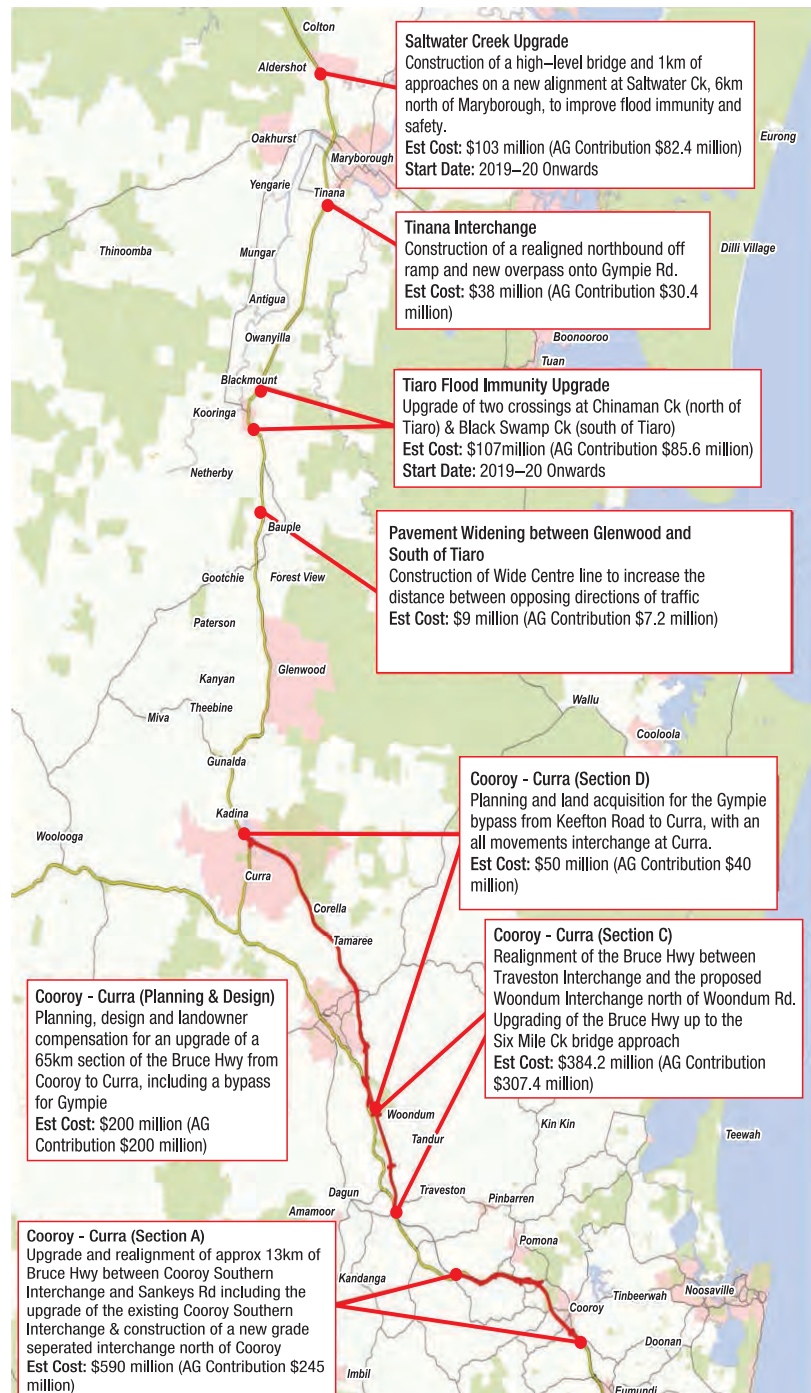
The existing interchange has a poor safety record and while some interim measures such as a reduced speed limit and signage upgrades have resulted in a reduction in crashes, a new interchange will provide a long-term solution.

"The Tinana Interchange upgrade will see a new northbound off-ramp and overpass structure which will require motorists to exit to the left instead of the right".

"Both through lanes of Bruce Highway traffic will travel under the new overpass and be separated by a wide centre line treatment."

Approximately 118 jobs are expected to be created over the life of the project, which is expected to start in mid-2016 and will be completed in mid 2017.

The Australian Government is funding up to \$30.4 million, and the Queensland Government \$7.6 million, towards the \$38 million project.



Coalition's Bridges Renewal Programme building better bridges in Wide Bay

The ageing one-lane Gutchy Creek Bridge at Gundiah will be replaced with a new two-lane concrete structure through \$1.144 million in Liberal Nationals Government funding under Round Two of the Bridges Renewal Programme. The Fraser Coast Regional Council will match the funding. The 10 tonne limit timber bridge will be replaced with 40 tonne limit concrete bridge which will be 28 metres long. The new bridge will be built to withstand flooding from the Gutchy Creek which divides Gundiah. These improvements will also save heavy vehicles a 78 kilometre detour and improve response times for emergency services by removing a 35 kilometre detour.

The Coalition Government has also allocated \$955,500 to upgrade the Goomong Road bridge at Kandanga and \$920,500 for the Kandanga Creek Road bridge, with the Gympie Regional Council contributing matching funding.



Warren Truss joins with the local community to celebrate funding to replace the Gutchy Creek Bridge at Gundiah. The new two lane bridge will also include a pedestrian access to make it safer for local children walking to school.

Coalition's National Stronger Regions Fund supporting local jobs

The Coalition Government has funded four projects in Wide Bay through the National Stronger Regions Fund (NSRF), including \$900,000 for stage two of the iconic Fraser Coast Military Trail.

The Trail project will feature an eight metre high representation of the cliffs of Gallipoli ahead of the Duncan Chapman statue in Maryborough's Queens Park. Information bays between three panels of cliffs will convey the Gallipoli story and sculptures will depict the landing scene at Anzac Cove. A trench walk depicting the Western Front and a memorial commemorating the battle of Pozieres, where Major Duncan Chapman was killed, will complete this unique, interactive, memorial. The trail will form an interpretive



Warren meets with Greig Bolderrow, Nancy Bates, Bob Evans and Gerard O'Connell at the memorial of Duncan Chapman, the first man ashore at Gallipoli, to announce funding for stage two of the Fraser Coast Military Trail

tour linking existing local attractions and new works, recognising and commemorating the Wide Bay's significant links to military activities.

Other projects funded include \$5 million for Gympie's new aquatic centre, \$325,000 to extend Maryborough's Brolga Theatre and \$548,250 to upgrade the Pavilion Conference and Reception Centre at Gympie.

The National Stronger Regions Fund (NSRF) supports projects that create jobs and strengthen the economy in regional communities.



Warren and Gympie Mayor Mick Curran turn the first sod on Gympie's Aquatic Centre

Building Stronger Communities in Wide Bay

The Liberal Nationals Government's Stronger Communities Programme is a popular source of matching funding for councils, not for profit community, sporting and service groups in Wide Bay, providing grants of between \$5,000 and \$20,000.

\$150,000 is available to Wide Bay in each round with several local projects already approved:

- \$10,500 to the Kandanga Country Club for new lighting, enabling it to host more events, including twilight bowls.
- Maryborough Child Care Centre will receive \$5,954 to upgrade the staff kitchen, staff meeting room and children's bathroom.
- Gympie and District Landcare Group has been allocated \$8,753 to improve water storage, capture and recycling by replacing guttering and installing a new tank.
- C & K Kindergarten Association at Tewantin will receive \$11,663 to upgrade the centre's bathroom.
- \$14,364 to improve disabled access at St Vincent de Paul, Gympie.

Applications for round two closed on 29 April and outcomes are expected to be announced from July 2016.

Working for Wide Bay



Australia's surf life savers do a great job keeping our beaches safe and it was a pleasure to present Noosa Heads Surf Life Saving Club with a special award at Parliament House for their Rescue of the Month, recognising their courageous efforts rescuing three swimmers in trouble.



It was a pleasure to present School Captain's badges to students at Rainbow Beach State School



After more than ten years in the making, the Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee (MRCCC) now has a home of its own after raising more than \$500,000 in donations to fund the Mary Catchment Resource Centre.

The MRCCC does wonderful work protecting and conserving the natural environment and also played an integral role in stopping the ill-conceived Traveston Crossing dam.

It was an honour to open the new MRCCC Resource Centre in Gympie and I congratulate the volunteers, donors and staff for their continuing efforts to improve the Mary River Catchment and beyond.



Rev Tim Costello was the guest speaker at Australia's largest Mayoral Prayer Breakfast at the Pavilion in Gympie, attended by 650 people.



The Australian Government has provided \$545,000 to Cooloola Christian College to help build new learning areas, where I joined Member for Gympie Tony Perrett, Cooloola Christian College School Captains Nathan McClintock and Jemmima Shelley, Principal Trevor Norman and Mayor Mick Curran at the opening of the new facilities.



The Murgon Show is a well organised and popular event and I was pleased to support it with Mel O'Hanlon who opened the show, Member for Callide Jeff Seeney, Cr Ros Heit, Cr Damien Tessmann and Cr Kathy Duff.

WIDE BAY'S Community Survey 2016

Thousands of responses to Wide Bay's Biggest Survey have been returned to Warren's office and the results are now being compiled.

Wide Bay's Biggest Survey asked people living in Wide Bay for their opinions on a range of local, state and national policy issues.

The survey covered a diverse range of topics including health and aged care, roads and transport, taxation and social security, the economy, environment, energy and climate change.

People were also asked for their opinions on social and community issues including attitudes to same sex marriage and daylight saving.

"Wide Bay's Biggest Survey gave people a say and will help to ensure their voice is heard in the Federal Parliament," Warren said.



Warren presents new Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of The Nationals, Barnaby Joyce with a plaque listing the names of all those who have occupied the Deputy Prime Minister's Office in the new Parliament House.

The NBN rollout continues in Wide Bay

The NBN is helping to transform the economy by improving commercial and social connectivity, improving the way we communicate and supporting jobs.

The NBN roll out is continuing in Wide Bay with around 10,000 households and businesses now able to access the network from **Fixed Wireless** sites located at: Araluen North, Banks Pocket East, Black Mountain, Boreen Point, Boreen Point North, Brooloo, Carters Ridge, Cherbourg, Coondoo West, Cootharaba, Doonan West, Dundowran, East Deep Creek, Gilldora, Glastonbury, Greens Creek South, Gunalda, Gympie North, Kin Kin, Kybong, Long Flat North, Mount Corella, Murgon North, Nikenbah South, Pie Creek, Southside, Takura, Tamaree South, The Palms North, Tinana, Tinana South, Tinbeerwah West, Traveston, Walligan, Widgee, and Widgee South.

Construction has also started on **Fixed Wireless** towers that will connect a further 3,500 premises at the following locations: Amamoor, Bauple Forest, Boonooroo, David Cootharaba, Dundathu, Imbil, Kandanga, Kilkivan, Mungar, Schreibers, The Palms, Tiaro, and Tinana West.

More than 10,000 premises in the Gympie area are now able to connect to the NBN's **Fibre to the Node** network. The roll out plan indicates that around 22,000 households and businesses including Castaways Beach, Cooribah, Doonan, Noosa Heads, Noosaville, Sunrise Beach, Sunshine Beach, Tewantin, Tinbeerwah, Verrierdale will begin early next year. Construction to connect a further 9,700 premises at Granville, Maryborough and Tinana will begin in the second half of 2017. The following year construction will begin in Goomeri and Murgon.

For people living in rural or remote areas that fall outside of the fixed wireless or fixed line networks, the NBN's **Sky Muster Satellite** is due to be activated in May 2016.



Gympie is one of the first communities to connect to the NBN's fibre to the node network, with over 10,000 premises in parts of Gympie, Monkland, Southside, Jones Hill and Banks Pocket now able to switch to superfast broadband.

I was pleased to meet with local business owners at Telstra's launch of the new next generation telecommunications technology that sets new benchmarks for the area's broadband speeds and reliability.

Dob in a Dealer launched in Wide Bay



Warren Truss met with representatives from the Fraser Coast Council, Queensland Police and Crime Stoppers to launch the Dob in a Dealer campaign.

Dob in a Dealer, a new joint initiative between the Australian Government and Crime Stoppers will help to reduce the enormous damage drugs do to individuals, families and the community.

The Dob in a Dealer campaign raises awareness of the harm methamphetamine (ice) does and encourages local communities to contact Crime Stoppers and help destroy the drug dealers supply chain. Crime Stoppers provides people with a safe, secure and anonymous avenue to report those suspected of being involved in the manufacture or supply of ice and other illicit drugs.

If you see or hear something suspicious, you can contact Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000 or through their website at crimestoppers.com.au. Your advice may help to make your community safer.

Warren Truss MP

Your Federal Member for Wide Bay

Helping Wide Bay
Jobseekers into work



Creating and sustaining local jobs is a priority for me and the Federal Liberal Nationals Government. We have a rock solid commitment to building a stronger economy for a safe and secure Australia.

We have abolished Labor's job destroying and confidence crushing mining and carbon taxes and we have eliminated billions of dollars of Labor's red tape that was strangling business.

More than 416,300 jobs have been created since our election. We are working to ensure the benefits of our growing economy are shared amongst all regions.

Small business is a significant economic driver and job creator. The Coalition is delivering a \$5.5 billion package to support small business, including a tax cut for all small business and immediate tax deductions for asset purchases of up to \$20,000. These incentives increase small business productivity so they can invest, hire and create new jobs.

The Coalition Government is investing more than \$2 billion to upgrade the Bruce Highway in the Wide Bay region and we have tripled Roads to Recovery funding to Councils in Wide Bay to stimulate the economy, boost productivity and support growth.

The comprehensive range of initiatives, programs and investments demonstrate the Coalition Government's commitment to doing all it can to ensure that everyone who wants a job has the opportunity to participate in work.

Above all, confidence is the key to a strong economy. If people are confident about the future, if they shop and spend locally, the local economy will do well. If the local economy does well local jobs will be created. The Coalition's employment initiatives are designed to encourage that confidence to strengthen the local economy.

Best wishes,

Warren



Restart

Businesses can access up to \$10,000 to employ mature age job seekers



Relocation Assistance

Receive up to \$9,000 to relocate to take up a sustainable ongoing job



Trade Loans

Trade Support Loans of up to \$20,000 for apprentices, with a 20% discount for successful completion



Industry Skills Fund

\$476 million for skills advice and tailored staff training to help businesses expand and compete



Jobactive

\$6.6 billion for the new employment services provider model *jobactive*, to help job seekers move from welfare into work



Wide Bay a Priority

Youth Employment Transition to Work services operate from Noosaville, Gympie and Maryborough



ADF Gap Year

School leavers can gain new skills over 12 months with the Navy, Army or Air Force



Job Commitment Bonus

Young job seekers who find a job and stay off welfare for 12 months will receive \$2,500; and a further \$4,000 at 24 months



Work for the Dole

15-25hrs per week Work for the Dole will be compulsory for most job seekers under 50, providing skills and experience for job seekers



Wage Subsidies

Wage subsidies of up to \$6,500 for businesses that employ long-term welfare recipients, young or indigenous job seekers



Green Army

Green Army volunteers gain a qualification while helping clean up the environment



Apprenticeship Support

\$200 million each year for the Australian Apprenticeship Support Network to lift apprenticeship completion rates



Business Advice

\$660,000 for BEC to provide advice to grow small businesses in Wide Bay

**Please note: Special conditions and eligibility criteria apply. For more information go to www.employment.gov.au