MEDIA STATEMENT

10 September 2020

Speed limit change for Steve Irwin Way

Safety will improve for motorists and bike riders on Steve Irwin Way with a new speed limit coming into effect between the Caloundra Road interchange and Ewen Maddock Dam.

Transport and Main Roads Deputy Regional Director for North Coast Region Leah McKenzie said the posted speed limit would be reduced to 80km/h on two sections.

"Steve Irwin Way is one of the Sunshine Coast's busiest roads, carrying a high volume of traffic between the highway and hinterland communities," Ms McKenzie said.

"It's also popular with bike riders and an important part of the region's Principal Cycle Network, which will link to the new active transport infrastructure currently being built as part of the Bruce Highway Upgrade – Caloundra Road to Sunshine Motorway (CR2SM) project."

Ms McKenzie said the new limit would create consistency for motorists.

"This change will create a consistent 80km/h speed limit from the northern end of Steve Irwin Way, south to the intersection of Beerburrum Road and Red Road," she said.

"Importantly, it will also complement the Bruce Highway upgrades underway, providing safe and sustainable travel between Caloundra Road, Steve Irwin Way and Tanawha Tourist Drive.

"We are building more than nine kilometres of new dedicated lanes and pathways for bike riders and pedestrians as works continue on the CR2SM project.

"Once completed, the bike lanes and paths will extend from Caloundra Road and Steve Irwin Way in the south, north through Glenview and on towards Tanawha, culminating in a new dedicated bridge at the Sippy Downs interchange.

"The reduced 80km/h speed limit will come into effect mid this month (September) and we urge all road users to observe these changes and drive to the conditions."

The \$812.95 million Bruce Highway Upgrade – Caloundra Road to Sunshine Motorway is funded on an 80/20 basis, with the Australian Government contributing \$650.36 million and the Queensland Government contributing \$163.59 million.

This project is part of the 15-year, Bruce Highway Upgrade Program, a \$12.6 billion program of works to improve safety, flood resilience and capacity along the Bruce Highway from Brisbane to Cairns.

The program is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland governments, with the Australian Government contributing \$10 billion and the Queensland Government contributing \$2.6 billion.

For more information about active transport on the CR2SM project, visit https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Projects/Name/B/Bruce-Highway-Caloundra-Road-to-Sunshine-Motorway-upgrade.



For up-to-date information on road works and conditions across the state, visit <u>www.qldtraffic.qld.gov.au</u>, call 13 19 40 or download the app.

ENDS

Media contact: TMR Media Unit, 3066 7060