

Coomera Connector Stage 1

(Second M1)

Ridgevale Drive

Key design features

- A new bridge on Ridgevale Drive will provide both vehicle and active transport access across the Coomera Connector.
- The upgrade will include an active transport ramp into Ridgevale Park and connect with local footpaths in The Shores.
- A fauna corridor will be maintained alongside The Shores on the eastern side of the Coomera Connector with a fauna passage provided under Ridgevale Drive bridge.

Bridge construction and access during construction

To facilitate construction of the new Ridgevale Drive bridge, temporary vehicle access into The Shores will be provided via a detour along the new Coomera Connector from the existing roundabout in The Shores to the intersection of the Gold Coast Highway. Once the new Ridgevale bridge is complete, this temporary access via the Gold Coast Highway will be removed.

Following the initial community consultation feedback in 2020, the design was amended to reduce the duration of detours during construction by removing the need to demolish the existing rail bridge and then rebuild it. Once construction details are known, information will be made available.

Access to and from the Coomera Connector

The nearest access for most Helensvale residents, including The Shores, will be at both Helensvale Road and Gold Coast Highway interchanges.

Noise mitigation

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) recognises that noise is a key concern for residents who live close to the Coomera Connector. To address road traffic noise, the Stage 1 Central package includes more than seven kilometres of noise barriers.

Noise barriers will be:

1. installed on both sides of the corridor where required
2. up to a maximum height of six metres depending on the location and terrain
3. a mix of acrylic panels and painted panels in many locations to maximise natural light and improve visual amenity.

Protecting the environment

Regulated by local, state and federal legislation, the project will ensure environmental impacts are identified and appropriately avoided, mitigated or managed.

During the past three years, TMR has completed extensive environmental investigations along the Stage 1 corridor including:

- koala and wildlife surveys to determine habitat values for native fauna
- flora surveys to determine the presence of protected plants
- aquatic ecology surveys and water quality monitoring.

The data collected from these surveys has identified measures which can enhance environmental outcomes.

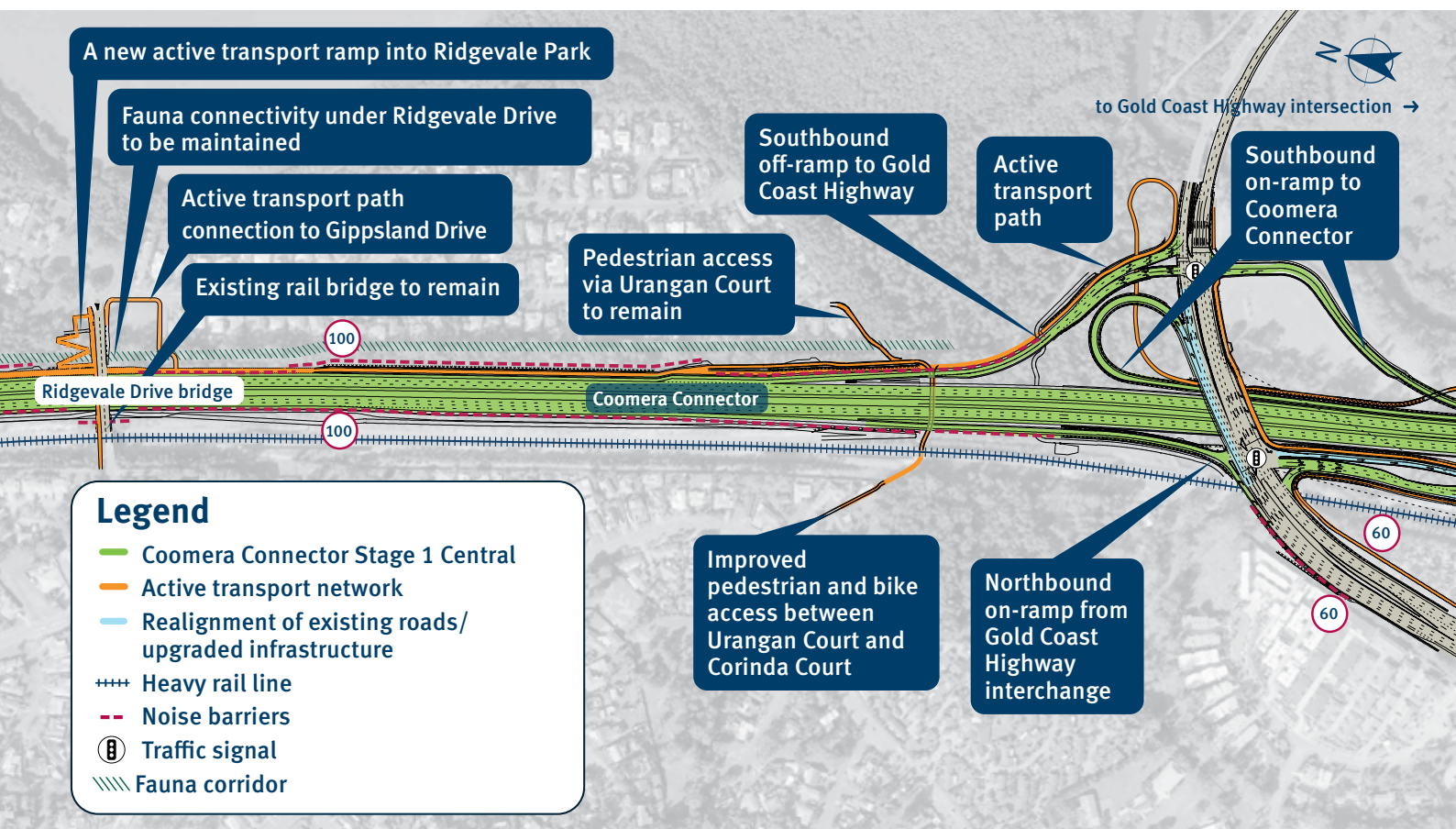
This includes special designs for a fauna passage alongside The Shores and appropriate fauna fencing to improve the safety of wildlife while moving around their natural habitat.

Vegetation clearing

Prior to and during vegetation clearing for site investigations, specialised ecologists from Endeavour Veterinary Ecology (EVE) have been on-site to assess and identify safe work areas. This practice will continue through construction.



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Active transport network

A new up to four-metre-wide shared pedestrian and bike path on the eastern side of the motorway will provide opportunities for active transport. The shared pedestrian and bike path will provide connections to key community hubs at Gold Coast Highway, Helensvale Station, Napper Road and Parkwood light rail station.

Access from The Shores to the shared user paths along the Coomera Connector will be available:

1. from the roundabout in The Shores via connections at Ridgevale Park and Gippsland Drive
2. from the end of Urangan Court.



Pedestrian access from Urangan Court to Mildura Drive

As part of the design, the access between Urangan Court and Mildura Drive will remain, however during construction a temporary detour via Ridgevale Drive bridge will be required. Once construction details are known, information will be made available to the local community.

Contact us

Residents and motorists are encouraged to subscribe to the free SMS and email traffic alert service to keep up-to-date on the Coomera Connector Stage 1 project. To register, contact the project team:

Phone: 1800 568 978 (select option 2)
(free call from any landline during business hours, 9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday)

Email: coomeraconnector@fhmjmjv.com.au

Web: tmr.qld.gov.au/coomeraconnector

Mail: Department of Transport and Main Roads –
PO Box 442, Nerang QLD 4211

Interpreter and accessibility services

Interpreter service: **13 14 50**

TTY/voice calls: **13 36 877 (ask for 13 23 80)**

Speak & Listen: **1300 555 727 (ask for 13 23 80)**

SMS relay: **0423 677 767 (ask for 13 23 80)**

Email: helpdesk@relayservice.com.au (ask for 13 23 80)

13 QGOV (137468)

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