21 August 2020



Department of **Transport and Main Roads** 

## **Dear Education Provider**

## RE: Pacific Motorway (M1) Varsity Lakes to Tugun upgrade

You may be aware that construction has commenced on the Pacific Motorway (M1) upgrade between Varsity Lakes at Exit 85 and Tugun at Exit 95. Referred to as the VL2T upgrade, this project is part of a wider M1 Nerang to Tugun Master Plan that has, since 2008, progressively delivered motorway lane widening and interchange upgrades between Nerang and Varsity Lakes.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) is keeping work flowing for the VL2T upgrade and others like it by investing in the community during this difficult period.

Throughout the project, the VL2T upgrade is set to support 837 jobs at a time when maintaining jobs has never been more critical. On that basis, the project team is working hard to accelerate the construction start dates for these works.

The upgrade will widen a 10-kilometre section of the M1 to a minimum of three lanes in each direction between Varsity Lakes and Tugun, and up to five lanes in areas where current and future congested hotspots have been identified. In addition to this widening, the upgrade will include significant improvements to interchanges, extensions to on and off-ramps, increased pedestrian and bike facilities, as well as realigning the motorway for better visibility and safety.

The VL2T upgrade is being delivered at the same time in the following works packages:

## Package A Varsity Lakes (Exit 85) to Burleigh (Exit 87) – VL2B

- Construction began in May 2020 and is expected to be complete by mid to late 2022

Package B Burleigh (Exit 87) to Palm Beach (Nineteenth Avenue) – B2PB

- Construction to begin late 2020

## Package C Palm Beach (Nineteenth Avenue) to Tugun (Exit 95) - PB2T

- Construction to begin late 2020 / early 2021

All three packages are expected to be complete by end 2023, weather, contractor and site conditions permitting.

Your school and/or early education facility has been identified as being adjacent to or close by the upgrade works and a number of significant changes can be expected in this area in the coming months. Some of these changes include temporary changes to local accesses, temporary detours, removal of vegetation and general construction impacts. Throughout the construction period, TMR will work closely with the appointed construction contractors across each of the three packages to provide you with regular project updates such as changed traffic conditions and construction activities that may impact on parents, students and staff travelling to and from your school.

Members of your school community are encouraged to subscribe to the free email update service by registering their contact details via email or phoning the project team on the details below. Should anyone wish to opt out of this service, they can do so by choosing to unsubscribe on any of the emails.

Additionally, TMR would appreciate if any future project updates provided to you by the VL2T project team were to be included in your school newsletters to enable us to better reach your school community.

For more information on the upgrade, please visit the project web pages <a href="https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/projects/pacific-motorway-m1-varsity-lakes-to-tugun-upgrade">https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/projects/pacific-motorway-m1-varsity-lakes-to-tugun-upgrade</a>

If you would prefer to speak with a member of the VL2T project team, you can do so by phoning 1800 799 824, during business hours Monday to Friday, or please feel free to email <u>VL2T@tmr.qld.gov.au</u>.

Yours sincerely

Shane McNamee M1 South Project Director