



Townsville Connection Road

Location: Townsville Connection Road, between University Road and Bowen Road Bridge, Townsville

Timing: Construction expected to finish mid-2025, weather and construction conditions permitting

Status: Construction

The Townsville Connection Road is being upgraded to dual lanes between University Road and Bowen Road Bridge. The project includes upgrades at 3 intersections: Gartrell Drive, Mervyn Crossman Drive/Fairfield Waters Drive and Kokoda Street.

The section of road carries around 24,000 vehicles daily. The surrounding area is experiencing residential and commercial growth, and increased traffic is forecast.

In a significant development for the Queensland transportation landscape, the Albem Operations Pty Ltd and SGQ Pty Ltd Joint Venture were awarded the contract for the much-anticipated upgrades on Townsville Connection Road. This transformative project, valued at \$96 million, is poised to bring about substantial improvements to Stuart Drive, the local name for this crucial artery. The upgrade will encompass a four-lane expansion, extending from University Road to the iconic Bowen Road Bridge.

Benefits

- Improves safety
- Increases capacity
- Improves network efficiency
- Increases traffic flow
- Reduces peak hour congestion
- Better road access
- Accessibility
- Better active transport

Key Features

- Upgrade Townsville Connection Road to 4 lanes between University Road and Bowen Road Bridge.
- Replace the roundabout at the Townsville Connection Road and Mervyn Crossman Drive/Fairfield Waters Drive with a signalised intersection.
- Signalise the Gartrell Drive and Kokoda Street intersections to allow safer side street access.
- Safety upgrades for pedestrians and bicycle riders, including wider paths, better connections, and safer crossings.

Funding

This project is fully funded by the Queensland Government.

Status

Construction started on 4 December 2023 with completion expected in mid-2025, weather and construction conditions permitting.

Engagement with key stakeholders has been ongoing and will continue throughout the construction phase.

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Project Timeline

August 2022: detailed design completed.

December 2022: early works started, including property resumptions and public utility relocations.

December 2023: construction started.

Mid-2025: construction expected to be completed.

Townsville Connection Road, Bowen Road Bridge - Duplicate Bridge and Approaches

Location

The Bowen Road Bridge is located on the Townsville Connection Road, known locally as Stuart Drive, south of the bridge and Bowen Road north of the bridge.

Timing

Due for completion mid-2026

Construction

The department is building a new upstream bridge over the Ross River in Townsville, adjacent to the existing Bowen Road Bridge. This will increase the capacity of the river crossing from 2 to 4 lanes.

The Bowen Road duplication project will be delivered in conjunction with works currently under construction on Stuart Drive between University Road and the Bowen Road Bridge, adjacent to this project.

The Bowen Road Bridge duplication project will improve safety and driveability for the 24,000 vehicles using this bridge daily.

The existing 2-way bridge will be converted to 2 lanes for outbound traffic, in line with the upgrade of the Stuart Drive. The bridge duplication project will deliver pavement upgrades to the bridge approaches and upgraded lighting as well as CCTV installation.



There will also be upgrades to the pedestrian and bike crossings to improve safety for all road users, as well as improved connections to a refurbished underpass pathway.

Benefits

- Improves safety
- Increases capacity
- Improves network efficiency
- Increases traffic flow
- Reduces peak hour congestion
- Better road access
- Contributes to economy
- Contributes to regional growth
- Better active transport

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Key Features

- Duplicate the Bowen Road Bridge adjacent to the existing Bowen Road Bridge
- Pavement rehabilitation at the bridge approaches
- Lighting upgrades and installation of CCTV footage
- Upgrade pedestrian and bike crossings
- Refurbish underpass pathway with improved connections

Current Status

- Construction started in July 2024 and will be completed in mid-2026, construction scheduling and weather conditions permitting.

Subcontractors and Suppliers

NQ Earthmoving Pty Ltd	Excavators, Body Trucks / Truck and Dogs
Diamond Excavations	Excavators, Body Trucks / Truck and Dogs
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SM Civil	Final Trim Grader
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