

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Garth Prowd Bridge Upgrade – Bridge Renewal Works

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#### Summary

Work to upgrade the existing Garth Prowd Bridge, along Noosa Parade in Noosa Heads is starting in early March 2024. It is expected to be completed by late June 2024, weather permitting.

#### Why do these works need to be undertaken?

Comprehensive evaluations, inspections, and investigative testing have underscored the imperative need for substantial capital renewal efforts on the Garth Prowd Bridge. Undertaking these measures is vital to sustain the ongoing functionality of the bridge and prevent any additional deterioration of its structure. Crucially, these strategic investments not only provide a cost-effective solution but also play a pivotal role in preventing significant disruptions and minimising impacts on the community, the Noosa Road network, and the surrounding environment and waterway.

#### Where is the project located?

The project is located at the Garth Prowd Bridge, along Noosa Parade, situated 300 meters west from the Noosa Drive/Noosa Parade Roundabout.

#### How is this project funded?

This project is jointly funded by the Australian Government and Noosa Council as part of the Bridge Renewal Program.

#### When will the work start and how long will they take?

Work is expected to start in March 2024 and will take approximately four months to complete, depending on weather and construction conditions.

#### What will the work include?

The scope of works will include:

- concrete and steel corrosion repair works.
- protective coating treatments to be applied to the existing bridge elements.
- pile encasement works.
- replacement of the southern walkway's timber decking.
- replacement of the bridges asphalt road surface.
- associated road and footpath approach reconstruction works.

#### What are the expected vehicle traffic impacts on the community during work?

During the bridge upgrade works, traffic lane closures will occur along the Garth Prowd Bridge and Noosa Parade, allowing for vehicles to access the bridge while construction works are undertaken. These traffic impacts will be in place over the course of the construction period to allow for the safety of pedestrians, motorists, and site workers.

#### Why can't both traffic lanes along the Garth Prowd Bridge be open during construction works?

Given the specialised nature of the project's scope and the increased safety risks for pedestrians, motorists, and workers accessing the site, a cautious approach was required. Furthermore, the restricted working space for these essential works made it impractical to maintain both traffic lanes open along the bridge throughout the construction period.

#### What are the expected pedestrian traffic impacts on the community during work?

During the bridge upgrade works pedestrian access will be marinated across the bridge for the entire duration of the works.

Please be advised that bridge jumping from the Garth Prowd Bridge is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED** due to construction conditions and equipment placement below the bridge, which render it unsafe for such activities.

**What are the expected marine traffic impacts on the community during work?**

During the bridge upgrade works the Garth Prowd Bridge will be closed to access for boats and other marine craft wishing to travel under the bridge for the safety of site workers and the public. Users are asked to use alternative travel routes where possible during the upgrade works.

**Will these works impact on the surrounding environment and waterway?**

Environmental management plans for the upcoming construction works have been developed to manage and protect the surrounding environment and waterway. The bridge upgrade works have also been designed in detail to minimise impacts to the surrounding environment and waterway both during and post construction.

**What are the working days, hours and will there be any noise associated with the works?**

The bridge upgrade works will generally be undertaken **Monday to Friday between 7:30am and 5:30pm**. During these upgrade works noise will be kept to a minimum and nearby residents will be informed of any works that may cause excessive amounts of noise prior to these works commencing.

**Will Emergency Services be aware of the road closure and detour route in place?**

Emergency Services have been briefed on the changed traffic conditions prior to and throughout the works.

*Date of issue – 12 February 2024*