

MEDIA STATEMENT

10 July 2018

The drive home just got a whole lot safer on the Western Freeway

The drive home for many commuters has been made safer with the new \$1 million Variable Speed Limit Signs (VSLs) switched on.

Acting Regional Director Paul Mengede said the new signs had been installed on the Western Freeway (outbound) between Waverley and Fig Tree Pocket Roads.

“Thousands of road users who use the Western Freeway daily will benefit from the new signs, particularly during peak travel times,” Mr Mengede said.

“The signs aim to reduce crash-related congestion and improve safety for motorists driving home at the end of the day.

“What makes this technology clever is the signs will slow the traffic to 60km/h as the driver approaches the congestion or during bad weather, reducing the risk of traffic incidents.

“The signs have the ability to reduce the speed in 10km/h increments to slow traffic safely and quickly.

“Another safety benefit of lowering the speed of heavy traffic will be decreasing secondary rear-end crashes, which are more common in peak-hour traffic.”

Mr Mengede said the speed limits posted on the VSLs were managed by the Brisbane Metropolitan Transport Management Centre (BMTMC).

“The BMTMC monitors live traffic conditions using CCTV cameras and in-pavement detectors,” he said.

The new VSLs are installed at six locations:

- after the Waverley Road overpass
- near the Moggill Road off-ramp
- on the Moggill Road on-ramp
- after the Russell Terrace/Moggill Road on-ramp
- after the Jerrang Street overpass
- on the Fig Tree Pocket Road on-ramp.

“The new VSLs will go a long way to reduce the number of incidents, help with driver stress and improve the flow of traffic on this major motorway.”

This \$1 million project was part of the Queensland Government’s State Road Network Upgrade Program.

All motorists need to be aware of the Fatal Five and take them seriously: drink driving and drug driving, fatigue, inattention, not using a seat belt and speeding.

We all have a role to play in road safety and motorists are reminded to stick to the speed limits, abide by the road rules and drive to the conditions.

ENDS

Media contact: TMR Media Unit, 3066 7060