



Location

Question

- What is the exact location of the Ring Road and which suburbs will be affected?

Answers

- The Ring Road extension connects the current Douglas section, from Upper Ross River Road to Shaw Road at the intersection with Dalrymple Road.
- The Ring Road passes through Condon in a westerly direction between Carlyle Gardens and the Shalom Christian College, overpassing Beck Drive.
- It is roughly parallel to and about 500 metres south of Hervey Range Road.
- The Ring Road turns north across the Bohle River and crosses Hervey Range Road between Lynam Road and the Bohle River.
- It then heads north to the intersection with Shaw Road and Dalrymple Road.
- Via the existing Shaw Road, it will provide a northern connection to the Bruce Highway.
- There will also be work on Hervey Range Road to provide connections and intersections with the on and off ramps at the Hervey Range Road interchange.

Question

- What is the distance from the new bridge to Hervey Range Road and Shaw Road?

Answers

- The project is described as two sections: Section 3 is the Condon Section from Upper Ross River Road to Hervey Range Road, and Section 2 is the Shaw Road section from Hervey Range Road to Shaw Road.
- The Condon section is approximately 3.7km long and the Shaw Road section is about 3.3km long.

Question

- Why is it located so far away from the Bohle Bridge on Hervey Range Road?

Answer

- The Ring Road is a national highway. The aim of building a new national highway route through Townsville/Thuringowa is to separate it from the existing local road network, to improve traffic flow for through traffic and to provide the safety needed for increased highway and local traffic volumes.

Timing

Question

- When is the next stage starting?

Answers

- The design work for the project began in September 2005.
- Construction will start in early 2007. Service relocation and some access work may start in late 2006.

Speed

Question

- Is the Ring Road a through route?

Answer

- Yes, the Ring Road will form part of a new national highway route through Townsville/Thuringowa. The aim of building a new route is to improve traffic flow for through traffic.

Question

- Why will the Ring Road speed be 100km/hr?

Answers

- The National Highway is meant to provide efficient transport for freight and passenger traffic throughout Australia. This means designing it to provide higher speed limits and less interruption to the flow of national highway through traffic. Therefore, a criterion of the National Highway standards is a speed of 100km/h, where possible.
- The aim of building a new National Highway route through Townsville and Thuringowa is to improve on the current low-speed and stop-start traffic flow on the existing route.
- The Ring Road will be designed for a speed of 100km/hr, and this is one of the reasons that the cross movements at intersections will be separated using overpasses, ensuring that through traffic does not need to stop.
- The higher speed 100km/hr section will end on the Bohle Plains north of Hervey Range Road and before Dalrymple Road.
- Where the Shaw Road section approaches the intersection at Dalrymple Road, the speed will be reduced to 80km/h.
- Speed restriction signs will indicate the speed that cannot be exceeded.

Question

- How will this affect people who do not want to drive at 100km/hr?

Answers

- People travel at a speed that they consider is safe depending on their skills and ability. In some cases, this may be below the speed limit. Speed limits are the maximum speed at which people can legally drive. All drivers should drive according to the prevailing conditions, including changing weather and traffic conditions.
- The higher speed environment is an objective of the Ring Road project.
- Other lower-speed roads are available in the network for use by those drivers who are uncomfortable using the higher-speed Ring Road.

Questions

- When will the next stages be finished? How long will it take to complete?

Answer

- Subject to wet season influences on construction, the link from Upper Ross River Road to Shaw Road (Sections 2 & 3) should be completed toward the end of 2008.