



Since work started on construction of the Ring Road almost two years ago, the team has raised an amazing \$25,000 for Guide Dogs for the Blind through raffles, BBQs and other fundraising activities. Everyone was proud to present a cheque to Guide Dogs representative, Mary Anne Bakker, at a special site event this month.

## Benefits of the Ring Road for Townsville

A key benefit of the Ring Road is that it will provide access from the city to the north in major rainfall events (up to a 1 in 50 year event). In normal weather, the Ring Road will greatly reduce the time taken by residents travelling from the north to the hospital, James Cook University and Lavarack Barracks, among other destinations.

The greater Townsville

community will benefit from the removal of heavy traffic from the city's main arterial routes, along with the removal of much of the through traffic on the Bruce Highway.

This shifting of trucks and through traffic will result in greater safety for residents using local streets and in reduced wear and tear on these streets.

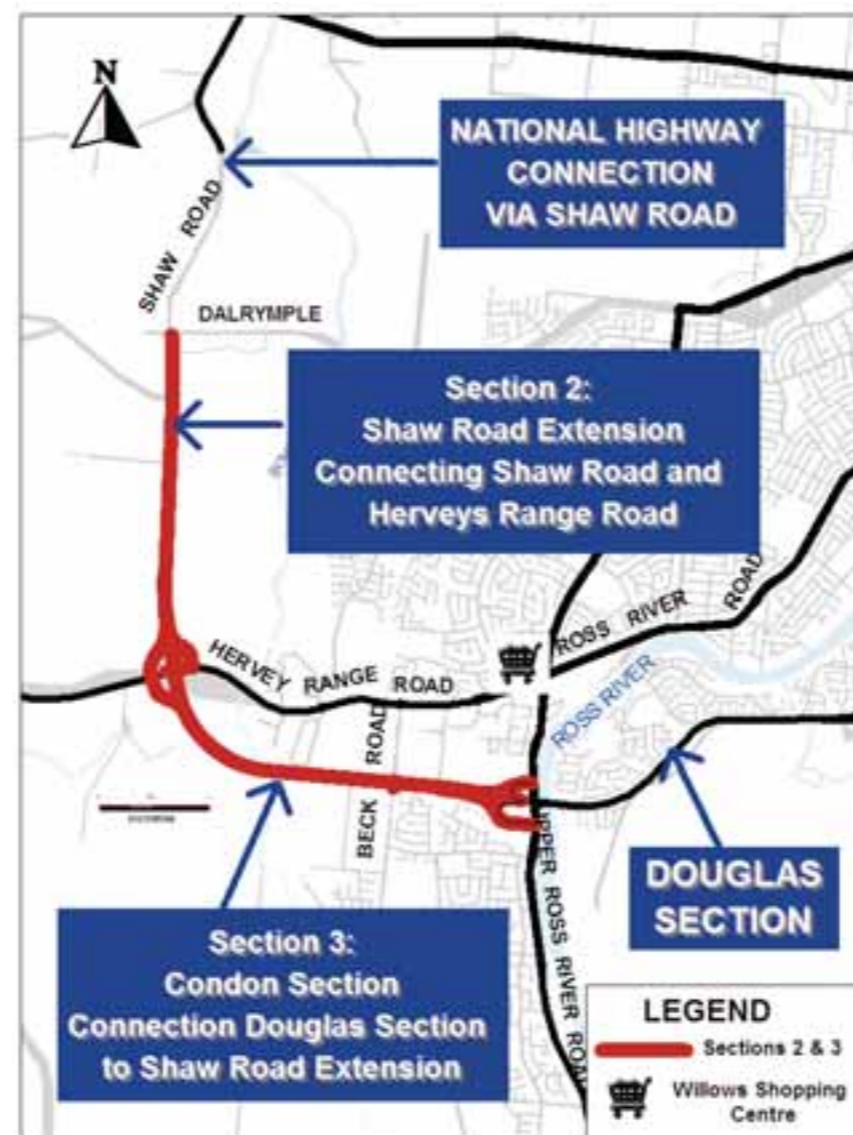
### Sharing with our neighbours

Since work started on construction of the Ring Road in March 2007, the team has attended a large number of meetings with various stakeholders and members of the community, plus:

- Over 440 people have toured the site in 28 site tours
- Around 3000 people have attended displays
- Almost 500 queries to the Infoline have been answered
- There have been over 7500 hits on the Main Roads website page over the last 12 months
- 20,000 newsletters have been delivered to the community
- Along with weekly Roadwork Updates, 25 different advertisements notifying traffic changes have been placed in the local media
- A number of local organisations have been supported in the true spirit of being a community member
- Several trainees and apprentices have gained experience and qualifications with the Ring Road.

## The Ring Road Sections 2 and 3

- Section 1 of the Ring Road is Douglas section, completed in 2005.
- This project involves constructing Sections 2 and 3.
- Section 2, the Shaw Road section, is a 3.2km extension of Shaw Road from Dalrymple Road to Hervey Range Road.
- Section 3, the Condon section, is a 3.8km connection between Section 1 at Riverway Drive and Section 2 at Hervey Range Road.
- Sections 2 and 3 will be two lanes connecting the Bruce Highway north and south of Townsville/Thuringowa via Shaw Road.



The Ring Road project team is committed to protecting the safety of the general public and its workers, and we ask motorists to be aware of the speed restrictions that are in place throughout the construction zone, as well as changing traffic conditions that occur from time to time.

### The Ring Road Contact Details

If you have any questions or feedback about the Ring Road design and planning, please contact us in any of the following ways.

Phone: Ring Road Infoline - 4771 4805  
 Fax: 4771 4016  
 Mail: Ring Road Information, PO Box 5244, Townsville Qld 4810  
 Email: ringroad@balfourconsulting.com.au  
 Website: www.mainroads.qld.gov.au  
 Road Condition Emergency Contact number: 0408 770 986



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 www.mainroads.qld.gov.au

## Construction Update No. 7



Looking east from the Ring Road's Hervey Range Road overpass to the on and off ramps for the Ring Road (left) and the project site office (right).

## March sunshine sees Ring Road construction powering on

Thanks to the hard work of our crew in maintaining site integrity through the wettest summer in history, we will be able to open the Ring Road by May 2009. This is despite having lost over 130 working days – or six months – to rain since the project started.

Last year, the Ring Road decided to minimise the wet weather risk for the project by changing the focus from completion of the Hervey Range Road ramps area to completion of the two extra bridges on Hervey Range Road and establishing protective measures

against wet weather throughout the site.

During the first two months of 2009, the team has worked to maintain those protections and to carry out whatever works were possible during the brief fine periods available.

### Did you know?

During construction of the Ring Road, we have built drainage structures that include:

- 16 box culverts
- 13 pipe drainage systems
- 2 very large culvert structures
- over 2,300m of open drains.

Everything is designed to keep the Ring Road open during a 1 in 50 year rainfall event. The drainage is also designed to ensure that waters are not shifted from the area to upstream or downstream regions.

The project team has also built the following bridges:

- Beck Drive – 24m single span overpass
- Hervey range Road – 54m two-span overpass
- Bohle River – 200m curved bridge
- Little Bohle River – 90m bridge
- Bohle River, Hervey Range Road – two bridges, each 76m long.



Looking west from the Ring Road's Hervey Range Road overpass, with Kalynda Chase on the right.

## What is still to be done?

Works required for completion of the Ring Road and the extension project include:

- Complete the installation of traffic signals at the on and off ramps on Riverway Drive and Hervey Range Road
- Complete the installation of street lighting to existing ring Road off ramp and Hervey Range Road medians
- Completion of kerbing and stencil concrete to Hervey Range Road and Riverway Drive medians
- Complete the installation of 416 directional and traffic signs
- Complete installation of guard rails to on and off ramps at Riverway Drive
- Complete installation of Information Technology Systems (ITS), including surveillance cameras on the motorway and Variable Message Signs (VMS) on Hervey Range Road and University Drive
- Final asphaltting to Hervey Range Road
- Complete line marking
- Complete landscaping in Section 3 (Condon section) and in the medians on Hervey Range Road.

# How to use the Ring Road

1. Two variable message signs will be located on Hervey Range Road before the Ring Road on-ramp for inbound (to city) traffic and before the new Landel Court-St Andrews Close roundabout for outbound (from city) traffic. This placement has been selected so that

people using Hervey Range Road will be given advance notice if the bridges are flooded and can use the Ring Road instead (inbound) or turn at the roundabout and go back to use the Ring Road (outbound traffic).

2. There will be surveillance cameras

along the Ring Road as well as provisions (one on each side) for emergency vehicles to do a u-turn or for police to pull over vehicles.

3. The Ring Road is part of the National Motorway Road Network and not a local road. This means the speed limit is

100 km/h and pedestrians/cyclists are not allowed to use the motorway. Slow vehicles are to use the existing local road network.

4. Cyclists and pedestrians may use the shared pathway that will extend from the Shaw-Dalrymple Roads intersec-

tion to Hervey Range Road, with the old Bohle River Bridge also being reserved for exclusive use by cyclists and pedestrians.

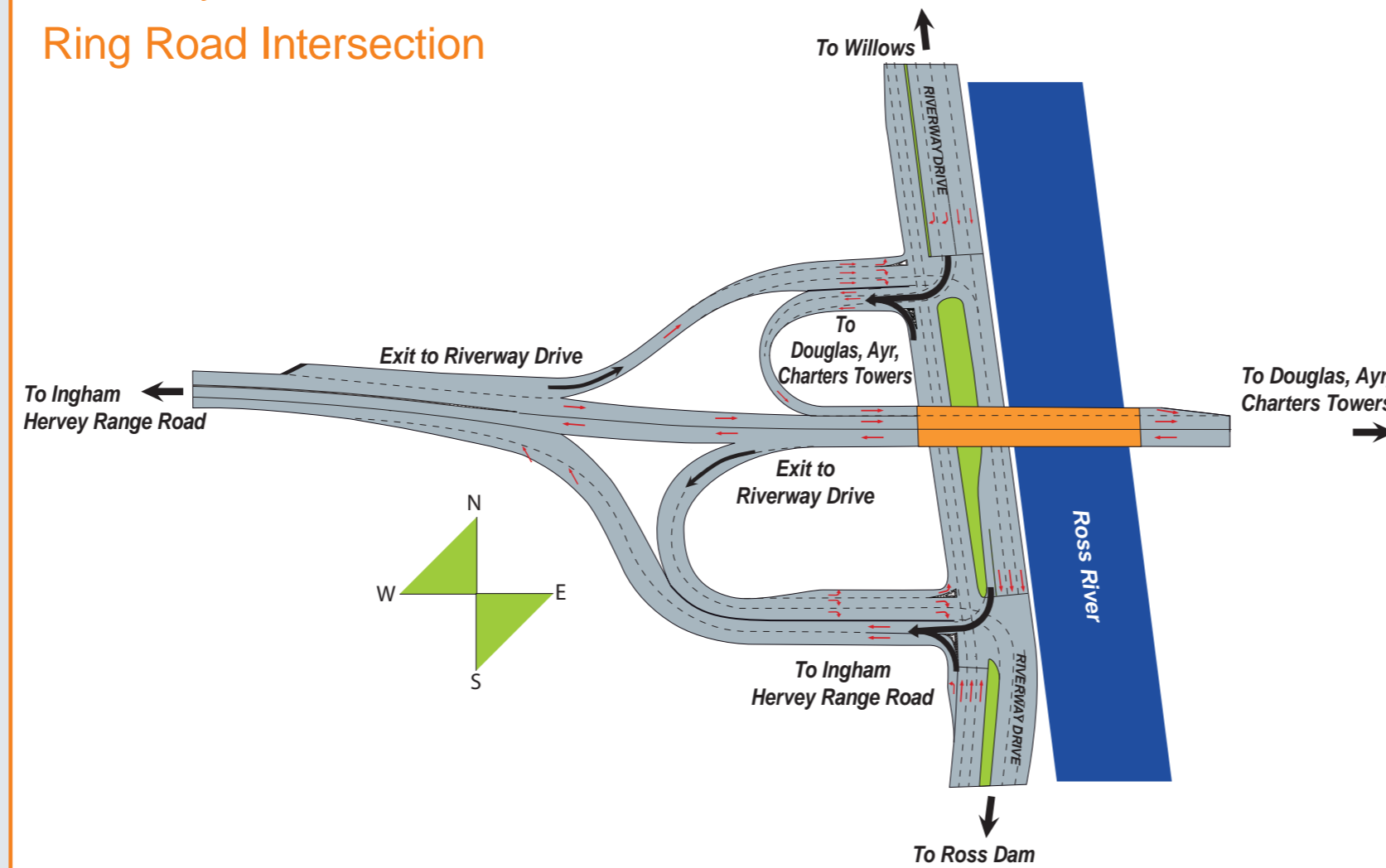
5. As with other two-laned motorways, there will be no medians except where traffic is merging, such as on-ramp

merging traffic areas. There will be traffic lights at the on-ramps and off-ramps at both Riverway Drive and Hervey range Road.

6. Where vehicles enter the Ring Road from the Riverway Drive on-ramp, drivers will NOT be allowed to use the cen-

tre or through lane, which will be line marked to prevent traffic from straying into the through lane. Drivers will need to increase their speed to approximately that of through traffic (100km/h) before merging.

### Riverway Drive and Ring Road Intersection



### Hervey Range Road and Ring Road Intersection

