

Project Profile

Broome Highway Bypass

New bypass improves safety for locals and reduces travel time for heavy haulage vehicles

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Stage 2 of the Broome Highway Realignment was opened by the Hon Minister for Transport Alana McTiernan in December 2007.

The new alignment connects Broome Highway to Port Drive via Gubinge Road, allowing road trains and other heavy vehicles to bypass the city centre when travelling to and from Broome Port.

The new road has greatly improved safety for pedestrians and motorists, and provided road trains with more efficient through-access to the port. Noise and pollution levels in the Broome townsite have also been reduced significantly as a result of heavy haulage vehicles being diverted away from the centre.

Major features of the works include the construction of 2km of new road and 1.3km of dual carriageway on the new route. Works also comprised the upgrade of major intersections along Gubinge Road to include two-lane roundabouts to cater for road trains. Major multi barrel culverts were also installed by local subcontractor BC Coastal and substantial areas of asphalt were laid to improve serviceability for road train movements, and to reduce general road noise from vehicles.

SPECIAL FEATURES AND CHALLENGES

- Complex traffic control was required to handle the mix of trucks, residential and tourist traffic;
- Adjacent residential areas required significant land holder liaison and a number of specific actions were implemented to reduce noise, vibration and manage dust control;
- Liaison with Aboriginal community representatives was required, particularly regarding Minyarr Park, to minimise impact on local vegetation during the construction process;
- A combination of sensitively designed rock embankment and mulching was used to reduce effects of scouring from tropical downpours;
- Extensive pedestrian walkways were constructed near the famous 'Cable Beach';

CONTRACT

197/06, construct only

CLIENT

Main Roads WA

LOCATION

Broome WA

TIMEFRAME

June 2007 – Dec 2007

PROJECT VALUE

\$13.2 million



- A road roundabout was moved to avoid encroachment on an area of Aboriginal and environmental significance;
- Asphalt mix used local stone from Nillibubacca quarry, which required on-site technical development in collaboration with MRWA MEB;
- Extensive areas of coloured and patterned concrete infill improved visual amenity;
- Complex service alterations included working near high pressure gas mains;
- Installation of street lighting along the complete project included reduced-height lights near the airport fly-over sections; and
- There was extensive liaison with the local authority on adjacent works and significant use of local sub contractors for culverts, mulching, bitumen and asphalt.



PROJECT REFEREES

Arthur Phillips, Superintendent, Main Roads WA

Etienne van der Merwe, Superintendent's Rep, Main Roads WA