



Darren Chester

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport

John McVeigh

Federal Member for Groom

David Littleproud

Federal Member for Maranoa



Mark Bailey

Queensland Minister for Main Roads,
Road Safety and Ports

Joint Media Statement

November 2, 2016

Eight new overtaking lanes for the Warrego Highway

Another \$44 million will flow to the Warrego Highway Upgrade program to fund construction of eight new overtaking lanes between Dalby and Oakey.

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Darren Chester said Federal funding of up to \$35.12 million had been approved for the project, which will also receive funding from the Queensland Government.

“These new overtaking lanes will improve driver safety and haulage efficiency and benefit all users of the highway, including road freight operators and tourists who underpin much of the region’s economy,” Mr Chester said.

“The funding is being drawn from the \$635 million jointly committed by the Australian and Queensland governments to upgrade the Warrego Highway between Toowoomba and Miles, and is part of our commitment to reduce road trauma across Australia.

“Duplication of major highways, installation of road safety barriers, widening road shoulders, better lighting, tactile line marking, improved signage and increasing the number of rest areas are all strategies currently being rolled out through various local, state and federal initiatives.”

Queensland Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports Mark Bailey said work on the Dalby to Oakey Overtaking Lanes project was expected to begin in January 2017 and be completed by late 2017.

“This project will involve constructing east and west-bound overtaking lanes at four locations on the Dalby to Oakey stretch,” Mr Bailey said.

“Drivers will be able to overtake slower vehicles much safer than is currently provided for on those stretches of the Warrego.

“Once the project is completed, travel times and the number of serious crashes recorded between Dalby and Oakey are expected to fall significantly, which is great news for road safety in the region.”

Federal Member for Groom John McVeigh said the new overtaking lanes were part of a larger package of enabling infrastructure which will boost the region’s economy.

“This region is the envy of much of regional Australia due to the amount of infrastructure growth we are experiencing. The Federal Government is helping facilitate the region’s growth by investing in key projects that will boost our economy,” Dr McVeigh said.

“I am working with all levels of government to ensure investment occurs in the right projects so we can leverage every opportunity that comes our way.

“We need to plan and build now to capitalise on these projects to ensure future supply chains are in place when they are needed.”

Federal Member for Maranoa David Littleproud said the highway upgrade provided a major increase to connectivity and economic growth in his electorate.

“The Warrego is a vital highway network in Maranoa and this Coalition Government commitment not only increases road safety but also strengthens the transport network for locals and the agricultural, tourism and resources industries,” Mr Littleproud said.

The \$43.9 million project is being jointly funded with the Australian Government contributing up to \$35.12 million and the Queensland Government contributing up to \$8.78 million.

Media Contacts

For Mr Chester:	Kate Barwick	0408 072 809
For Mr Bailey:	Zoe Russell	0428 079 640
For Dr McVeigh:	Chris Leslight	0417 071 772
For Mr Littleproud:	Eloise Handley	0411 095 860