



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

21 November 2016

Work starts on eight new Warrego Highway overtaking lanes

- **New overtaking lanes provide major safety benefits between Oakey and Dalby**
- **Part of the wider package of safety works on the Warrego Highway**
- **Up to 136 direct jobs expected to be supported throughout the project.**

Work has started to build eight new overtaking lanes at four locations, providing vital improvements to driver safety and travel times between Oakey and Dalby on the Warrego Highway.

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Darren Chester said this was one of 15 projects that make up the wider Warrego Highway upgrade between Toowoomba and Miles.

“A large number of heavy vehicles use the Warrego Highway to link with other major freight routes in Queensland, and this will be a vital upgrade to improve travel times,” Mr Chester said.

“Each of the projects, including this \$44 million overtaking lanes project, will make the highway safer to accommodate growing traffic volumes between Toowoomba and Miles.”

Queensland Minister for Main Roads and Road Safety Mark Bailey said FK Gardner and Sons had won the contract, and started work on the project last week.

“FK Gardner and Sons is an experienced construction group with offices across Queensland. It’s great to know the company was originally established in South West Queensland,” Mr Bailey said.

“Up to 136 direct jobs will be supported throughout the life of the project, which is great news for the local area.”

Dr McVeigh said providing eight more safe passing opportunities for both motorists and truck drivers will pay significant dividends in terms of travel time savings and reductions in the number of serious crashes on this section of the highway as drivers are less likely to make risky overtaking moves.

“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,” Dr McVeigh said.

Maranoa MP David Littleproud said the highway’s upgrade would increase connectivity and stimulate economic growth in his electorate.

“The Warrego is an important link in Maranoa and this investment not only increases road safety but also strengthens the transport network for locals and the agricultural, tourism and resource sectors,” Mr Littleproud said.

This \$44 million project is part of the larger \$635 million Warrego Highway Upgrade Program, jointly funded with the Australian Government contributing up to 80 per cent and the Queensland Government contributing up to 20 per cent.

Media Contacts

For Mr Chester:	Kerri Griffiths	0417 617 482
For Mr Bailey:	Zoe Russell	0428 079 640
For Dr McVeigh:	-	07 4632 4144
For Mr Littleproud:	Eloise Handley	07 4662 3822