



Darren Chester

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport

David Littleproud

Federal Member for Maranoa

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New bridge to be built in Freestone thanks to \$1.49 million Federal Govt investment

THE rickety one-lane bridge across Freestone Creek, Freestone, will be replaced thanks to more than \$1.49 million in Federal Government funds, Maranoa MP David Littleproud announced today.

“Freestone’s Palmer Bridge will be replaced under Round Three of the Bridges Renewal Program and means this timber bridge will be replaced with a two-lane crossing, increasing the load limit from 42.5T to 166T,” Mr Littleproud said.

“This upgrade will extend this bridge’s life by 100 years and will improve access and safety, not only for the community but also heavy vehicles as this improved route will remove a potential 34km detour if the old bridge failed or load restrictions were further reduced.

“The Coalition Government is committed to supporting local communities to deliver the infrastructure they need and, one of the best things about this program, was that local councils and communities were invited to submit projects according to local priorities.

“As a result, more than \$2.6 million will be invested by the Federal Government into bridge upgrades to improve safety and our transport network across my Maranoa electorate.”

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Darren Chester said the \$162.53 million funding toward round three of the Bridges Renewal Program was in addition to the \$216 million committed under the first two rounds.

“The renewal and upgrade of 186 bridges under this round will deliver social and economic benefits throughout regional Australia,” Mr Chester said.

The Federal Government’s financial commitment in this round will be matched by successful proponents. To allow for a wider distribution of projects, the Australian Government’s contribution under round three has been limited to \$5 million per project.

For more Bridges Renewal Program, check out: www.infrastructure.gov.au/bridges

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Successful Maranoa projects:

Council	Project name	Brief project description	Total Federal Govt funding	Total project cost
Paroo Shire Council	Deep Creek Bridge, Mt Alfred Rd, Wyandra	Replace and widen the one-lane timber bridge with a two-lane concrete bridge maintaining the 166T limit	\$390,000	\$780,000
Southern Downs Regional Council	Palmer Bridge Replacement, Freestone Rd, Freestone	Replace and widen the single-lane timber bridge with a two-lane concrete bridge increasing the load limit from 42.5T to 166T.	\$1,494,000	\$2,988,000
Toowoomba Regional Council	BR217 Emu Creek Hall Rd Bridge Replacement, Emu Creek	Replace and widen the single-lane timber bridge with a concrete bridge, increasing the load limit from 90T to 166T.	\$363,550	\$727,100
Toowoomba Regional Council	BR298 Post Office Road Culvert Replacement, Ravensbourne	Replace and widen culvert, increasing the load limit from 90T to 166T allowing for improved community access and safety, and the removal of a potential 2km detour if bridge fails or load restrictions are enforced.	\$354,250	\$708,500
			\$2,601,800	

Media Contacts

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