



Darren Chester

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport

David Littleproud

Federal Member for Maranoa

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Upgrades on the way for Outback Way in Queensland

- **Australian Government commits funding for five sealing and widening projects**
- **Reduced travel times, costs cut for freight operators, improve road reliability and enhanced economic opportunities for rural and regional communities**
- **Upgrades are part of the \$100 million commitment to the iconic Outback Way**

The Australian Government has committed funding to five projects worth approximately \$26 million to seal and widen priority sections of the Outback Way in Queensland, including works on the Kennedy and Diamantina Developmental roads and the Donohue Highway.

Federal Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Darren Chester said nearly 70 kilometres of upgrades would be delivered in Queensland, including:

- Two projects worth \$8.7 million to deliver approximately 26 kilometres of widening works on the Kennedy Developmental Road;
- Two projects to seal approximately 41 kilometres of Donohue Highway to a 2-lane standard, worth \$16.7 million; and
- \$1.01 million to deliver nearly two kilometres of widening works on the Diamantina Developmental Road.

“These works have been identified following an independent review of the Outback Way to identify high-priority sections requiring upgrades in the short term, with the results of the review used to inform the allocation of the \$100 million commitment,” Mr Chester said.

“Following the delivery of these five projects, less than 10 per cent of the Outback Way in Queensland will remain unsealed, delivering benefits for the industries and communities who use this key east-west route to access economic opportunities and essential services.”

Federal Member for Maranoa David Littleproud said the upgrades would improve road reliability, reduce travel times, cut costs for freight operators and enhance economic opportunities for communities and industry throughout regional Queensland.

“The works will create safer overtaking opportunities and improved sight distance for drivers, which is critical to supporting the safe movement for the mix of vehicles that use the Outback Way,” Mr Littleproud said.

“Construction of one of the Queensland sections to be upgraded is expected to start later this year, with other projects to be delivered progressively in the coming years.”

The Australian Government has committed up to \$100 million to deliver 13 priority projects across the Outback Way, with the Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australian governments, and relevant local councils, contributing the remaining 20 per cent required for each project, totalling \$25 million.

Media Contacts

For Mr Chester:	Kate Barwick	0408 072 809
For Mr Littleproud:	Eloise Handley	0411 095 860