

Transport

ROADS

The North Burnett has the fifth (5th) largest road network in regional Queensland and the twelfth (12th) largest in Australia. The North Burnett region needs the support of the Federal Government through funding programs like the Roads to Recovery (R2R) program to ensure that our roads are useable, safe and that they support the \$466M export earnings generated in the region. All exports require road transport so it is imperative that the North Burnett can meet the standards required. With the closure of all rail transport in the North Burnett, this leaves only road transport to move the \$466M of agricultural and mining exports that the region generates.

There is currently very limited public transport in the region, with just two trips to Bundaberg and one to Maryborough each week offered, meaning that road travel is essential for anyone needing medical or other professional services.

When considering paddock to plate opportunities, North Burnett is ideally located to provide fresh produce to cities and larger regional areas. To ensure food guarantee, safe roads are a key priority.

Our roads are so important to our community that individuals have formed working groups in order to progress required outcomes.

The Mundubbera Jandowae Roads Working Group are advocating for the:

- Replacement of the John Peterson Bridge over the Boyne River,
- Upgrade of the single lane section of the Mundubbera Durong Road directly south of the North Burnett Regional Council boundary
- Rehabilitation of uneven areas of the Mundubbera Durong Road near Durong and the Chinchilla Wondai Road west of Durong towards the Western Downs Regional Council boundary, and
- Construction of the Biggenden overpass to allow for B double transport.

Currently Council has identified a funding gap of \$3.4 million dollars in roads maintenance. Council will need to work with the Federal and State governments in finding ways to fund this shortfall.



BRIDGES

Existing timber bridges are now considered obsolete and will require upgrades or replacement to meet current Australian standards. In addition, many do not meet the B-Double standard that the North Burnett needs to transport produce.

The Bridges Renewal Program (BRP) is a great initiative and vitally important for the North Burnett to continue to develop the region's infrastructure. In Council's current budget, 50% of the Roads to Recovery (R2R) funding is also allocated to our bridge refurbishment projects.

Council is committed to upgrading all of our timber bridges across the road network, with 15 bridges replaced over the last 10 years.

The North Burnett has a further 15 bridges currently requiring replacement or repair at an estimated project cost of \$5.2M.

Council would like to see the Bridges Renewal Program (BRP) continued at its present (or higher) funding level.



AERODROMES

Council has upgraded three (3) of its aerodromes to accommodate the Royal Flying Doctors (RFD) service. Council is seeking to complete the upgrade of the Eidsvold Aerodrome to also meet this standard, a critical component in the provision of emergency health care in the area.

Council would welcome funding assistance to upgrade at least one aerodrome in the region to provide access for charter flights to not only enrich services to our community, but enhance visitor numbers, in turn boosting tourism possibilities for the North Burnett region.

Funding for a feasibility study is requested to assist in this development.

