Area profile

**Area:** 5,652 sq km, covering the greater Brisbane area from Redland Bay in the east through Ipswich and the Lockyer Valley in the west.

**Population:** Around 1,321,726.

**Industries:** Light and heavy industries, tourism, freight, aviation, manufacturing, creative, education, technology, agriculture, service sector.
The department’s Brisbane and Ipswich District Offices are the main points of contact for residents, industry and business to connect with Main Roads and learn more about what is happening in the area.

State road projects in and around the Metropolitan Region are funded by the Queensland Government and the Federal Government. In the current roads program, the Queensland Government is investing over $2.2 billion in the area (including over $27 million in Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme projects), and the Federal Government is contributing around $1.5 billion. Developers also contribute to the roads program.

### Metropolitan road activities

**Significant achievements in 2007-08**

Developing a road network which supports the *South East Queensland Regional Plan 2005-2026* (SEQRP), and incorporates the outcomes of *South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program* (SEQIPP).

- Started construction on the 4.5km upgrade of the Mt Lindesay Highway between Green Road and Granger Road. The project will expand the current two lanes to four when completed.

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### Road network

- Cunningham Highway (Ipswich - Warwick)
- Warrego Highway (Ipswich - Toowoomba)
- Mount Lindesay Highway (Brisbane - Beaudesert)
- Brisbane Valley Highway (Brisbane - Harlin)
- South East Arterial Road (Pacific Motorway)
- Gateway Arterial Road (Gateway Motorway - South)
- Gateway Arterial Road (Gateway Motorway - North)
- Gympie Arterial Road
- Mount Lindesay Arterial Road
- Cunningham Arterial Road (Ipswich Motorway)
- Western Arterial Road (Ellen Grove - Jindalee)
- Western Arterial Road (Jindalee - Everton Park)
- Mount Cotton Road
- Capalaba - Cleveland Road
- Ipswich - Boonah Road
- Ipswich - Cunningham Highway Connection Road
- Ipswich - Warrego Highway Connection Road
- Rosewood - Marburg Road
- Ipswich - Rosewood Road
- Rosewood - Warill View Road
- Rosewood - Laidley Road
- Gatton - Laidley Road
- Gatton - Clifton Road
- Gatton - Helidon Road
- Brisbane - Moggill Ferry Road
- Forest Hill - Fernvale Road
- Everton Park - Albany Creek Road
- Linkfield Connection Road
- Port of Brisbane Road
- Brisbane - Redland Road
- Centenary Highway (Springfield - Yamanto)
- East Coast Road
- Victoria Point Road
- Capalaba - Victoria Point Road
- Birkdale Road
- Swanbank Road
- Karrabin - Rosewood Road
- Haigslea - Amberley Road
- Mount Crosby Road
- Mount Sylvia Road
- Nobby Connection Road
- Murphy’s Creek Road
- Mount Cotton Road
- Capalaba - Cleveland Road
- Ipswich - Boonah Road
- Ipswich - Cunningham Highway Connection Road
- Ipswich - Warrego Highway Connection Road
- Rosewood - Marburg Road
- Ipswich - Rosewood Road
- Rosewood - Warill View Road
- Rosewood - Laidley Road
- Gatton - Laidley Road
- Gatton - Clifton Road
- Gatton - Helidon Road
- Brisbane - Moggill Ferry Road
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- Swanbank Road
- Karrabin - Rosewood Road
- Haigslea - Amberley Road
- Mount Crosby Road
- Mount Sylvia Road
- Nobby Connection Road
- Murphy’s Creek Road
Commenced construction on the final stage of the Centenary Highway extension between Springfield and Yamanto to service growth areas in Ipswich.

Commenced stage 1 of the Darra to Springfield Transport Corridor with construction of the Centenary Highway pedestrian and cycle bridge at Springfield almost complete. This project is in partnership with Queensland Rail.

Completed construction on the Mt Cotton Road intersections with Seaview and Mount View Roads. Safety improvements on other intersections from Sheldon to Cornubia are still planned.

Progressed construction on upgrading 1.6km of Moggill Road between Kilkivan Avenue and Pullenvale Road. The work includes duplicating the section of road from two to four lanes.

Released the preferred option for the Warrego Highway and Brisbane Valley Highway intersection upgrade.

Released the preferred option for the Mains Road and Kessels Road intersection upgrade.

Providing capital investment for road infrastructure to meet the transport needs of rapidly developing coastal areas.

Completed construction of the Boundary Road upgrade at Thornlands. This includes duplicating the road to four lanes between Panorama Drive and Cleveland – Redland Bay Road to address traffic congestion and improve safety.

Commenced construction on Redland Bay Road from Vienna Road to Boundary Road. The works will improve traffic safety and reduce congestion in Redland City when completed.

Optimising capacity and safety of heavily-trafficked roads.

Upgraded the remaining two-lane section of Brisbane – Beenleigh Road to four lanes from Bethania to Beenleigh.

Commenced construction of new service roads alongside the Mt Lindesay Highway in the Munruben – Park Ridge South area.

Completed maintenance works on the Barclay Street Bridge on the Cunningham Highway.

Launched a towing service in the region to help ease congestion on state-controlled roads. A free tow truck is now available to the public if they break down anywhere on this network. The service assists traffic movement and public safety, by quickly clearing vehicles from moving lanes.

Introduced electronic enforcement on the Brisbane Urban Corridor to monitor trucks restricted from using the corridor as a through route, instead of the alternative approved route. The restrictions are improving safety, road efficiency and amenity for local residents along the corridor.

Opened the new Redcliffe High School pedestrian overpass at Oxley Avenue, to provide a safer crossing for students between their two campuses.

Conducted the first Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Traineeship to Employment program to be offered in Brisbane. This successful program is continuing, with a second traineeship offered in 2009.

Completed public consultation process on options for the MacGregor/Jubilee Terrace Planning Study.

Completed construction of the four-lane Centenary Highway link between the Ipswich Motorway interchange and Garden Road ramps, and an overpass at Boundary Road and Kelliher Road at Darra. The work was undertaken in partnership with Brisbane City Council to ease congestion at the intersection, help reduce travel times, and improve local road safety and access to and from the Springfield area.
» Continued work to upgrade section one of the Federal Government funded Ipswich Motorway Upgrade from Wacol to Darra. Work includes a transformation of the current Centenary Highway interchange roundabout to a multi-level, free flowing interchange. When complete, the upgrade will improve capacity, safety and reliability on this section of the Ipswich Motorway.

Managing the impacts of heavily-trafficked roads on the environment and amenity of adjacent land uses.

» Continued work to upgrade the Ipswich Motorway and Logan Motorway interchange. Work includes reconstructing the interchange and upgrading 2km of the Ipswich Motorway through Gailes and Goodna. When complete, this Federal Government funded project will replace an accident and congestion black spot and improve local access.

» Construction of the Ipswich Motorway Upgrade – Dinmore to Goodna is due to start early in 2009 and be completed by 2012. The design is being finalised but will include widening the motorway to a minimum of six lanes, safer ramp access, new bridges, and additional pedestrian and cycle facilities and service roads.

» Landscaping state-controlled roads, including joint projects with local governments, community groups, Greening Australia and Planet Ark. As part of Greening Australia’s 25th anniversary celebrations, the region’s staff received a special certificate of appreciation, in recognition of continuing efforts to improve the amenity of state-controlled road corridors through ongoing revegetation programs.

» Noise barriers were extended along some of the region’s more heavily-trafficked roads, including completion of noise barriers at Eight Mile Plains along the Gateway Motorway and at Albany Creek along Old Northern Road.

» Continued the Pacific Motorway noise treatment project and installation of in-house noise treatments for affected residents.

» Widespread use of special road surfacing treatment to significantly reduce road traffic noise in urban areas.

» Completed construction on new Riawena Road noise barriers between Greer Road and Orange Grove Road. The Federal Government committed funds towards building the barriers, as part of Main Roads’ program to reduce traffic noise in the area.

» Managed the Port of Brisbane Motorway Bulimba Creek Oxbow conservation site, in partnership with the Bulimba Creek Catchment Coordination Committee, Greening Australia and Powerlink.

» Participated in research with the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service to investigate options for safety barrier crossing devices. These will reduce the adverse effects of road and motor vehicle impacts on koalas and other native fauna during road construction. At critical locations, fauna underpasses and fauna fencing are being installed.
**Key deliverables in 2008-09 and 2009-10**

Managing urban growth and building Queensland’s regions.

South east Queensland is one of the fastest growing areas in Australia. The key deliverables over the next two years are aligned to government priorities and contribute to the government outcomes. They also help manage the transport demands created by rapid growth in this area. The SEQIPP builds on existing funding initiatives and state election commitments to provide a program of transport infrastructure until 2016 and planned new development until 2026.

SEQIPP will help encourage development at the best locations to boost industry and meet the demands of population growth in south east Queensland.

**Efficient and effective transport to support industry competitiveness and growth.**

- Commence the Gateway Motorway North Planning Study, jointly funded by the Federal and Queensland Governments, to investigate upgrades on 16km of the Gateway Motorway from south of Nudgee Golf Course to the Bruce Highway. Main Roads will develop a preferred option for this section of motorway to cater for future traffic growth, and address safety and efficiency for road users.

- Commence the Gateway Motorway South Planning Study, jointly funded by the Federal and Queensland Governments. The studies will investigate upgrades of the Gateway Motorway, between Mt Gravatt – Capalaba Road and the Pacific Motorway interchange. Options to improve safety, ease congestion and cater for traffic growth will be released to the public.

- Complete construction of the Acacia Ridge rail crossing overpass on Beaudesert Road. The project is funded by the Federal and Queensland Governments and Queensland Rail.

- Release options for the ultimate upgrade of the Port of Brisbane Motorway, as part of a joint Federal and Queensland Government study. Communities and industry have provided input to the plans which will address growing transport and freight demands.
» Complete construction of the four-lane upgrading of the Mt Lindesay Highway between Green Road/Fedrick Street and Rosia Road.

» Complete construction of the Centenary Highway between Springfield and Yamanto.

» Construction commenced on the Darra to Springfield Transport Corridor - Stage 1, to provide a new rail line between Darra and Richlands and duplicate the Centenary Highway between Richlands and the existing Logan Motorway. This project is in partnership with Queensland Rail.

Safer roads to support safer communities.

» Complete works for the Redcliffe State High School pedestrian overpass on Oxley Avenue, to provide a safer crossing for students between their two campuses.

» Complete construction of the Centenary Highway shared pedestrian and cycle bridge at Springfield, in partnership with Queensland Rail.

» Complete a new road surface on Mt Cotton Road between Valley Drive, Mt Cotton and Woodlands Drive, Thornlands.

» Complete a new surface on sections of Gympie Road between Sparks Street, Chermside, and Leckie Road, Kedron. This involves upgrading the road surface with high-grade asphalt to reduce traffic noise.

» Develop, in conjunction with Queensland Transport and local governments, plans and implementation programs for safety measures, ranging from bikeways to freight routes.

Fair access and amenity to support liveable communities.

» Continue to engage communities, to understand and respond to small business, industry and community needs. Work actively with private developers to achieve equitable outcomes for government, developers, industry and the community.

» Continue to partner with Queensland Transport and Brisbane City Council to create a single Brisbane Metropolitan Transport Management Centre. Main Roads will begin work to standardise the Main Roads and council traffic management systems.

» Improve intersections on Redland Sub-arterial (Mt Cotton Road), Redland Bay Road and Cleveland – Redland Bay Road.
Environmental management to support environmental conservation.

- Work closely with the Department of Infrastructure and Planning, Queensland Transport and local councils to implement joint planning actions arising from the SEQR, TransLink Network Plan and the Integrated Planning Act 1997.

- Continue the extension of noise barriers along more heavily-trafficked roads, including completion of new Riawena Road noise barriers between Greer Road and Orange Grove Road. Install noise barriers as part of road upgrade projects along the Gateway Motorway, Ipswich Motorway and Moggill Road.

- Continue landscaping initiatives as part of road upgrades and joint projects with local councils, community groups and Greening Australia.

- Continue management of the Port of Brisbane Motorway Bulimba Creek Oxbow conservation site in partnership with the Bulimba Creek Catchment Coordination Committee, Greening Australia and Powerlink.

- Continue to partner with the Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service to investigate options for safety barrier crossing devices, to reduce the adverse impacts of roads and motor vehicles on koalas and other native fauna.
Major challenges for Metropolitan

The major challenges facing the region include:

» managing a long-term road network which supports the SEQRP
» delivering a significantly increased program of road infrastructure, including road projects in the SEQIPP, within scope, on time and on budget
» supporting regional development by upgrading key freight and passenger routes to meet the transport needs of rapidly developing coastal areas
» optimising capacity and safety on heavily-trafficked roads
» managing the impacts of heavily-trafficked roads on the environment and amenity of adjacent land uses
» supporting the delivery of cycle and pedestrian infrastructure for school transport and other related purposes.