

Mediaportal Report



Completed rail line to deliver grain, cotton and coal direct to port

Surat Basin News, Chinchilla, General News

26 Sep 2019

Page 24 • 282 words • ASR N/A • Photo: Yes • Type: News Item • Size: 460.00 cm² • QLD • Australia • Press • ID: 1175758550

Securing the future

MODERN containerised grain, cotton, coal and other commodity freight will, for the first time, run down the Great Dividing Range when a \$77 million upgrade to the Toowoomba rail line is complete.

The Queensland Government spent the past year lowering and widening 11 heritage tunnels along the range, to allow larger, 9'6" containerised freight train to run from the Darling Downs to the Port of Brisbane.

A further \$37 million was spent to stabilise sections of the rail line near Spring Bluff.

The project is expected to be complete in time for the 2020 cotton harvest.

The two projects generated an estimated 230 jobs.

While the rail line had been used to cart coal and agricultural products in the past, with tunnels dating back to the 1800s, the tunnels were too narrow for modern container carriages to pass through.

Transport and Main Roads Minister Mark Bailey said the widened tunnels would benefit communities from Toowoomba to western Queensland.

"The Darling Downs and south-west produces almost a third of our state's agricultural output, and it is vital we continue to support the jobs and businesses creates," he said.

"The Palaszczuk Government is backing our producers and world-class exports with a more competitive freight system." Existing tracks along the tunnels have been replaced with pre-cast concrete slabs, which require less maintenance.

The Toowoomba range is a geographically challenging section of the state rail network, with the upgrades designed to make the range more resilient to wet weather and unplanned disruptions.

Caption Text:

Q ALL ACTION: Workers dredging gravel and sand to lower and widen an old train tunnel along the range to make them large enough to handle modern contain freight. PHOTO: TMR

[View original](#)

Audience

4,050 CIRCULATION



Major rail projects put regional jobs on track

Moreton Border News, Moreton, General News

20 Sep 2019

Page 3 • 232 words • ASR AUD 970 • Photo: Yes • Type: News Item • Size: 388.00 cm² • QLD • Australia • Press • ID: 1174342751

NEXT month, a \$28 million project to replace 18 timber rail bridges between Rosewood and Chinchilla is expected to be completed.

Five of those bridges are on the line between Rosewood and Grandchester.

Transport and Main Roads Minister Mark Bailey said the project helped support 200 of the 1,150 jobs created as part of major rail upgrades throughout regional Queensland.

The total value of the projects adds up to almost \$305 million.

The largest investment - the \$100 million North Coast line upgrade between Townsville and Rockhampton - started construction in July and will support more than 300 construction jobs.

Work is also underway to replace 20 timber bridges between Gympie and Cairns, an \$86 million project that will support a further 280 jobs.

Later this month, work wraps up on a \$21 million project to modernise Bundaberg's rail signalling system and upgrade seven level crossings.

A \$77 million project to lower 11 historic rail tunnels on the Toowoomba Range to allow for larger container trains is expected to finish in early 2020, having supported 130 local construction jobs.

The \$28 million project to replace the ageing timber rail bridges between Rosewood and Chinchilla is expected to wrap up by the end of October.

Caption Text:

Rail bridge on Rosewood-Laidley Road Grandchester.

Rail bridge outside Rosewood.

Rail bridge on Old Grandchester Road at Lanefield.

Rail bridge on Waters Road at Lanefield.

Rail bridge on Hiddenvale Road Calvert.

[View original](#)

Audience

4,080 CIRCULATION



Major rail projects put regional jobs on track

MySunshineCoast

18 Sep 2019 11:52 AM

702 words • ASR AUD 3,848 • Web • ID: 1173699906

Major rail projects worth almost \$305 million are driving a regional rail jobs boom across Queensland.

The largest investment – the \$100 million North Coast line upgrade between Townsville and Rockhampton – started construction in July and will suppor...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

N/A UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, N/A AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Grain, cotton direct to port

Toowoomba Chronicle, Toowoomba, General News, Michael Nolan

18 Sep 2019

Page 5 • 290 words • ASR AUD 410 • Photo: Yes • Type: News Item • Size: 236.00 cm² • QLD • Australia • Press • ID: 1173370082

First container freight to roll down the range in 2020

MODERN containerised grain, cotton, coal and other commodity freight will, for the first time, run down the Great Dividing Range when a \$77 million upgrade to the Toowoomba rail line is complete.

The Queensland Government spent the past year lowering and widening 11 heritage tunnels along the range, to allow larger, 9'6" containerised freight train to run from the Darling Downs to the Port of Brisbane.

A further \$37 million was spent to stabilise sections of the rail line near Spring Bluff.

The project is expected to be complete in time for the 2020 cotton harvest.

The two projects generated an estimated 230 jobs.

While the rail line had been used to cart coal and agricultural products in the past, with tunnels dating back to the 1800s, the tunnels were too narrow for modern container carriages to pass through.

Transport and Main Roads Minister Mark Bailey said the widened tunnels would benefit communities from Toowoomba to western Queensland.

"The Darling Downs and south-west produces almost a third of our state's agricultural output, and it is vital we continue to support the jobs and businesses creates," he said.

"The Palaszczuk Government is backing our producers and world-class exports with a more competitive freight system." Existing tracks along the tunnels have been replaced with pre-cast concrete slabs, which require less maintenance. The Toowoomba range is a geographically challenging section of the state rail network, with the upgrades designed to make the range more resilient to wet weather and unplanned disruptions.

Caption Text:

READY TO ROLL: Workers dredging gravel and sand to lower and widen an old train tunnel along the range to make them large enough to handle modern contain freight. Photo: TMR

[View original](#)

Audience

14,016 CIRCULATION



New freight set to roll down range

Queensland Times, Ipswich, General News

18 Sep 2019

Page 7 • 142 words • ASR AUD 82 • Photo: Yes • Type: News Item • Size: 90.00 cm² • QLD • Australia • Press • ID: 1173352984

MODERN, containerised grain, cotton, coal and other commodity freight will, for the first time, run down the Great Dividing Range when a \$77 million upgrade to Toowoomba rail line is complete next year.

The Queensland Government spent the past year lowering and widening 11 heritage tunnels along the range, to allow larger, 2.90m containerised freight train to run from the Darling Downs to the Port of Brisbane.

A further \$37 million was spent to stabilise sections of the rail line, near Spring Bluff.

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The two projects generated an estimated 230 jobs.

While the rail line had been used to cart coal and other agricultural products in the past, with tunnels dating back to the 1800s, the tunnels were too narrow for modern container carriages to pass through.

[View original](#)

Audience

6,256 CIRCULATION



Bailey spruiks \$305m in ongoing regional rail projects

Rail Express.com.au

17 Sep 2019 3:51 PM

254 words • ASR AUD 1,257 • Web • ID: 1173215783

Work will soon be complete on the \$21 million project to modernise Bundaberg's rail signalling system and upgrade seven level crossings – part of \$305 million in regional rail work going on across Queensland. Queensland transport and main roads ministe...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

N/A UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, N/A AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Rail infrastructure construction to boost local Queensland jobs

insideconstruction.com.au

17 Sep 2019 9:27 AM

165 words • ASR AUD 865 • Web • ID: 1173106111

Construction on a range of Queensland rail infrastructure projects worth \$305 million are estimated to support more than 1150 regional jobs, according to the State Government.

The North Coast line upgrade between Townsville and Rockhampton is the...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

N/A UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, N/A AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Rail work on track to boost jobs

Townsville Bulletin, Townsville, General News

16 Sep 2019

Page 3 • 136 words • ASR AUD 564 • Photo: No • Type: News Item • Size: 93.00 cm² • QLD • Australia • Press • ID: 1172535381

THE \$100 million upgrade of the rail line between Townsville and Rockhampton is expected to support more than 300 construction jobs, according to the State Government.

Transport and Main Roads Minister Mark Bailey, (pictured) spruiking the "major rail projects" across Queensland, said a regional rail jobs "boom" was under way.

The \$100 million North Coast line upgrade, which began in July, will expand eight train passing loops situated between Townsville and Rockhampton, enabling freight trains to increase in size from 650 metres to 950 metres.

Another \$46 million is being spent on building 16 new rail bridges between Townsville and Cairns, supporting 150 jobs.

Elsewhere in Queensland, a \$77 million project that will lower 11 historic rail tunnels on the Toowoomba Range to allow for larger container trains is expected to finish early next year.

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Audience

16,484 CIRCULATION



The amount of \$305m is about to be spent upgrading rail lines across Queensland. The ...

Channel 7, Brisbane, Seven News (Sunday), Katrina Blowers

15 Sep 2019 6:30 PM

Duration: 0 min 21 secs • ASR AUD 8,668 • QLD • Australia • Radio & TV • ID: X00080321162

The amount of \$305m is about to be spent upgrading rail lines across Queensland. The project will improve the railway between Townsville and Rockhampton. Bundaberg, Western Queensland, and Toowoomba are also in line for upgrades.

Audience

446,000 All, 176,000 MALE 16+, 249,000 FEMALE 16+

Also broadcast from the following 13 stations

Channel 7 Gold Coast (Gold Coast), Prime7 Gold Coast (Gold Coast), Seven Bundaberg (Bundaberg), Seven Cairns (Cairns), Seven Central (Alice Springs), Seven Mackay (Mackay), Seven Mt Isa (Mt Isa), Seven Rockhampton (Rockhampton), Seven Sunshine Coast (Sunshine Coast), Seven Toowoomba (Toowoomba), Seven Townsville (Townsville), Southern Cross Central (Alice Springs), Southern Cross Darwin (Darwin)



Major rail projects create 330 jobs around Toowoomba

Toowoomba Chronicle

15 Sep 2019 7:22 AM

460 words • ASR AUD 439 • Web • ID: 1172347627

MAJOR rail projects worth almost \$305 million are driving a regional rail jobs boom across Queensland, with 330 jobs generated in Toowoomba and surrounds.

A \$28 million project to replace 18 ageing timber rail bridges between Rosewood and Chinchilla...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

4,291 UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, 321 AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Major rail projects put regional jobs on track

miragenews.com

15 Sep 2019 7:03 AM

700 words • ASR AUD 3,810 • Web • ID: 1172340068

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The largest investment – the \$100 million North Coast line upgrade between Townsville and Rockhampton – started construction in July and will support...

[Read on source site](#)

Audience

N/A UNIQUE DAILY VISITORS, N/A AVERAGE STORY AUDIENCE



Toowoomba line tunnel floor lowering almost completed

Railway Digest, National, General News

01 Sep 2019

Page 16 • 245 words • ASR AUD 192 • Photo: No • Type: News Item • Size: 110.00 cm² • National • Australia • Press • ID: 1165743667

The Brisbane - Toowoomba line tunnel floor lowering project is almost complete with final track works to be finished within the next few months. All major track lowering works, which involved the two tunnels in the Little Liverpool Range between Grandchester and Laidley and the nine tunnels in the Toowoomba (Great Dividing) Range between Murphy's Creek and Toowoomba, have now been completed.

The tunnels are stone and brick lined and were constructed in the 1860s requiring the work to ensure that the heritage listed tunnels' features were protected. Pre-cast concrete track slabs were used in the project. BMD Construction was the lead contractor for the work and WSP-Parsons Brinckerhoff the design consultants. An additional project, also associated with clearance improvements, will involve modification to the steel truss bridge over the Condamine River at Warwick later this year.

Queensland Rail CEO, Nick Easy, told Railway Digest that once the final works are complete the clearance project will enable 9ft 6in containers to be transported from South West Queensland to the Brisbane Port, providing the potential to reduce the number of heavy vehicles travelling on the Warrego Highway. Funded by the Queensland Government the work cost around \$48 million.

The original tunnel clearances prevented the transport of 9ft 6in high containers by rail and were partly attributed to the loss of containerised cotton traffic from Namoi Cotton's Goondiwindi plant to Brisbane to road and the lack of any current containerised traffic on Queensland Rail's Western line.

[View original](#)

Audience

6,700 CIRCULATION





Securing the future

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A further \$37 million was spent to stabilise sections of the rail line near Spring Bluff.

The project is expected to be complete in time for the 2020 cotton harvest.

The two projects generated an estimated 230 jobs.

While the rail line had been used to cart coal and agricultural products in the past, with tunnels dating back to the 1800s, the tunnels were too narrow for modern container carriages to pass through.

Transport and Main Roads Minister Mark Bailey said the widened tunnels would benefit communities from Toowoomba to western Queensland.

"The Darling Downs and south-west produces almost a third of our state's agricultural output, and it is vital we continue to support the jobs and businesses creates," he said.

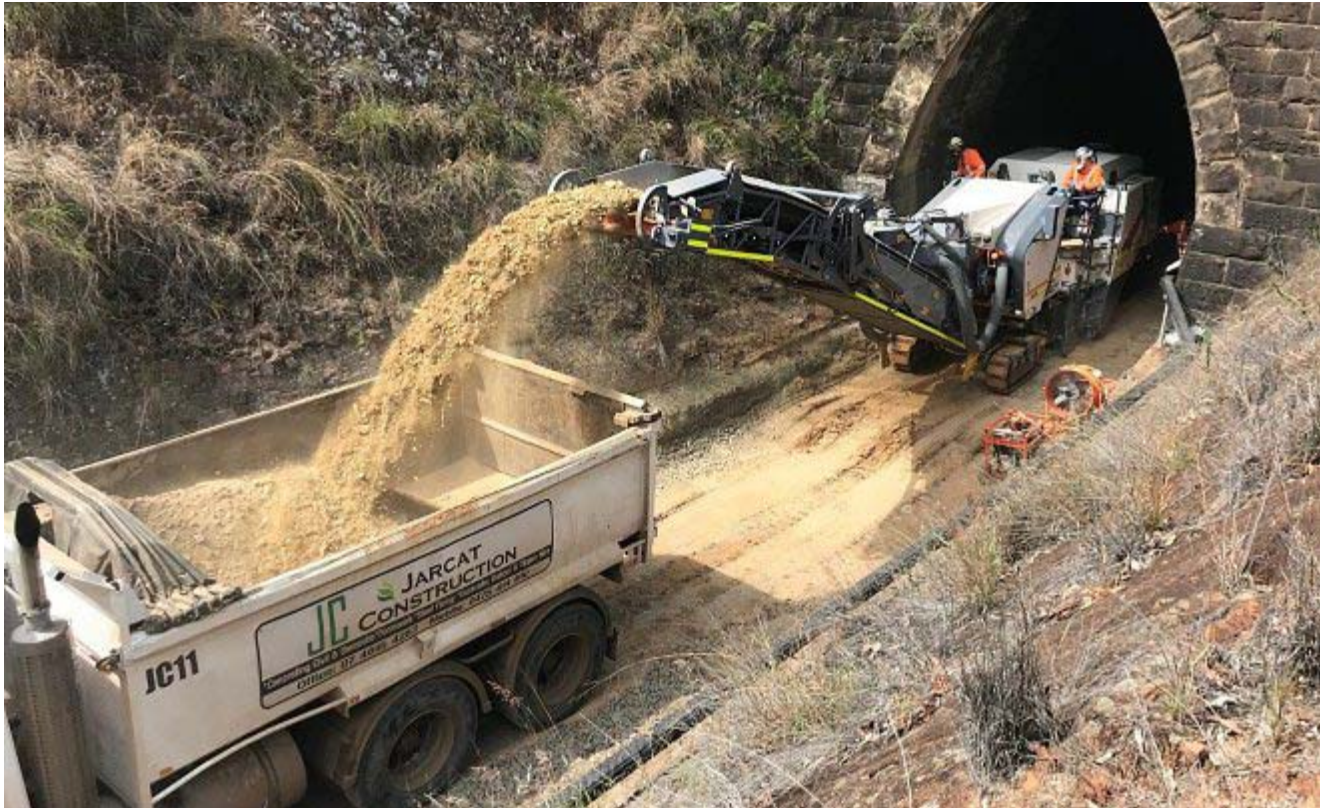
"The Palaszczuk Government is backing our producers and world-class exports with a more competitive freight system."

Existing tracks along the tunnels have been replaced with pre-cast concrete slabs, which require less maintenance.

The Toowoomba range is a geographically challenging section of the state rail network, with the upgrades designed to make the range more resilient to wet weather and unplanned disruptions.



 [back](#)



▶ ALL ACTION: Workers dredging gravel and sand to lower and widen an old train tunnel along the range to make them large enough to handle modern contain freight. PHOTO: TMR



20 Sep 2019

Moreton Border News, Moreton

Section: General News • Article type : News Item • Classification : Regional
Audience : 4,080 • Page: 3 • Printed Size: 388.00cm² • Region: QLD • Market: Australia
ASR: AUD 970 • Words: 232 • Item ID: 1174342751

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Rail bridge on Rosewood-Laidley Road Grandchester.



Rail bridge outside Rosewood.



back



Rail bridge on Old Grandchester Road at Lanefield.



Rail bridge on Waters Road at Lanefield.



Rail bridge on Hiddenvale Road Calvert.



back

Grain, cotton direct to port

First container freight to roll down the range in 2020

MICHAEL NOLAN

Michael.Nolan@thechronicle.com.au

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Photo: TMR



back

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 back

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Toowoomba line tunnel floor lowering almost completed

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