



Transport for NSW

Kamilaroi Highway safety upgrade, Baan Baa to Turrawan

Project update | April 2022



Section one of the project is complete.

The NSW Government is funding \$26.4 million to boost safety on the Kamilaroi Highway between Baan Baa and Turrawan as part of the Saving Lives on Country Roads program.

Project Background

In December 2019, Transport for NSW started the construction of \$26.4 million safety upgrades on the Kamilaroi Highway from Baan Baa to Turrawan.

The Kamilaroi Highway provides a vital link between Narrabri and Gunnedah and the 17 kilometre upgrade has been developed with the Centre for Road Safety as part of the Saving Lives on Country Roads program.

The crash history for this section of highway between Baan Baa and Turrawan features a high incidence of crosscentre line and run off road into an object crashes, which is why the NSW Government has funded this important project.



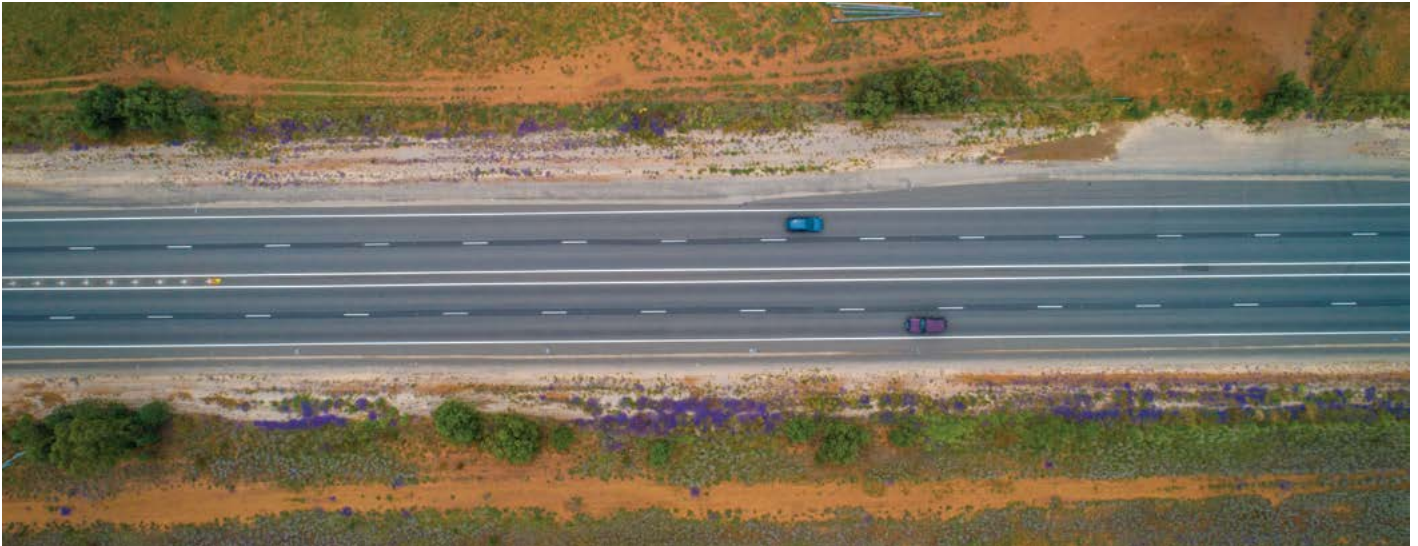
Improving
safety



17 kilometres of
road widening
in total



8300 metres of
safety barriers
installed to date



New 1.8km dual overtaking lanes constructed in section three.

Key features

The project is being delivered in four sections and key features include:

- wide centreline and flexible centre barrier to reduce the likelihood of head on crashes
- designated offline school bus turning bay near the Turrawan Road intersection to improve safety for school children and other travellers, completed in section one
- addition of dual overtaking lanes, completed in section three
- 2.5m wide sealed shoulders providing more room for vehicles to recover whilst remaining on a sealed surface
- rumble strips on centre and outside lines to reduce the likelihood of head on crashes and run off road crashes
- widened clear zone on roadside to improve visibility and reduce run off road into an object crashes
- raised retroreflective pavement markers to improve delineation
- construction of a pull over bay for over sized vehicles included in section two and we are currently reviewing the design to include a pull over bay for southbound heavy vehicles in section four.

Halfway milestone achieved

Section one completed

The first section of this project was completed in September last year.

This four kilometre section along the highway, south-east from Turrawan Road, included culvert extensions, road widening, installation of flexible safety barrier and the upgrade to the school bus stop at Turrawan Road.

Overtaking lanes added to scope

Section three of the project, includes dual, 1.8 kilometre overtaking lanes and installation of flexible safety barrier.

Following community consultation in 2019, which included feedback from emergency service agencies, Transport recognised the need to allow for safe overtaking.

As a result the dual overtaking lanes were added to the scope of the project.

Road work has been completed in this section and the overtaking lanes are open to traffic.

Flexible safety barriers



reduce the severity of high-risk crashes by up to 95%

Wide centreline



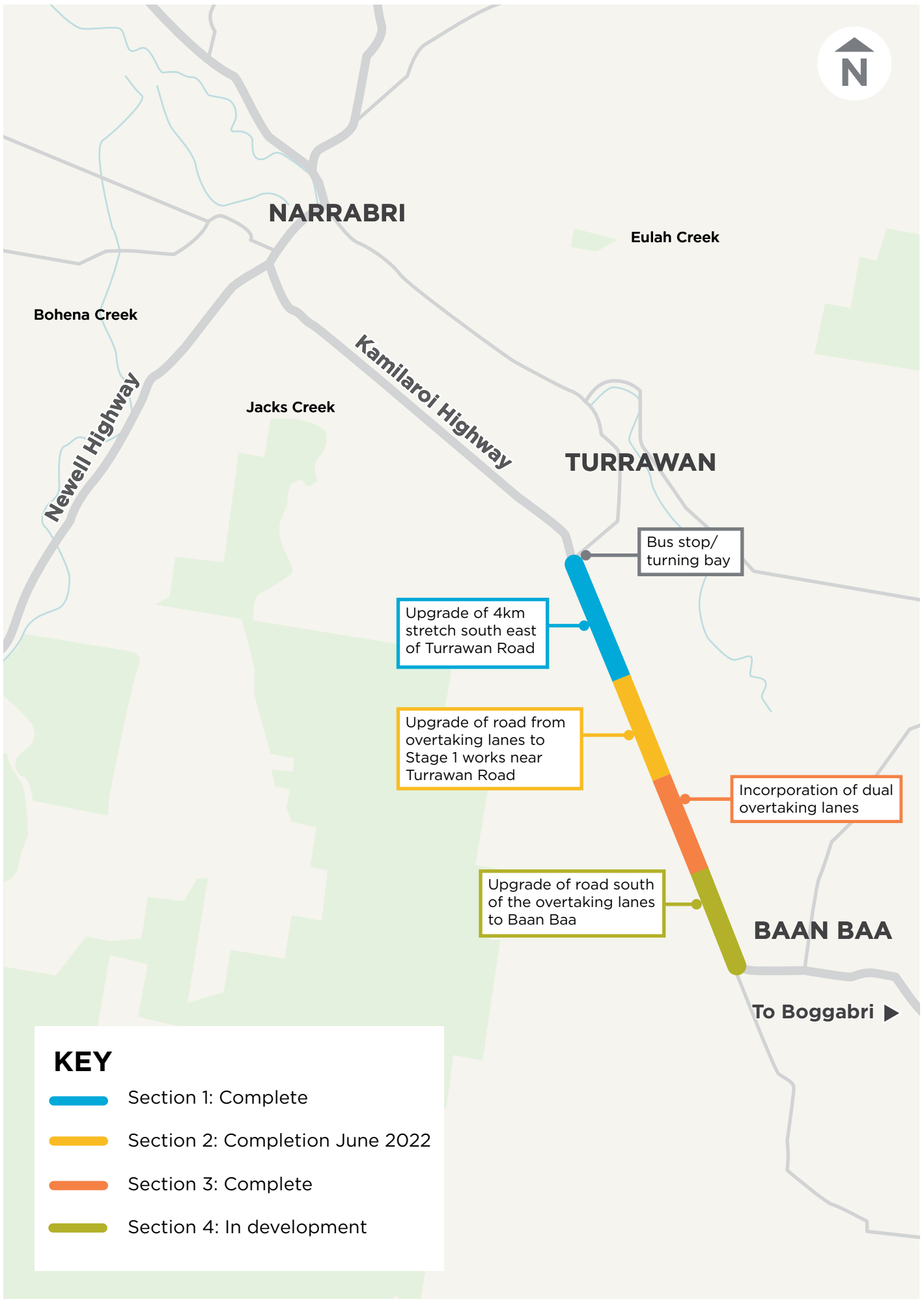
is estimated to reduce head-on crashes by 50% and run-off-road crashes by up to 25%

Rumble strips



are estimated to reduce the likelihood of vehicles departing their lane by 15% to 25%

Baan Baa to Turrawan safety upgrades project area



Project team spotlight

Meet Ben Rossiter: Project Development Engineer, Baan Baa to Turrawan safety upgrades.



Q. How long have you been working on the Baan Baa to Turrawan project?

A. I started on the development of the project in June 2019. I am currently working on developing section four.

Q. What do you enjoy most about working on this project?


A. It's rewarding to work on projects that have a real community benefit. This project offers distinct safety improvements to road users. The overtaking lanes incorporated provide a safe overtaking opportunity between Tamworth and Narrabri. It's also great to work as part of a productive and motivated team focused on positive outcomes.

Q. Why do you believe this project is so important for the community?

A. Despite some of the challenges, this section of road will be significantly safer. It was evident from the crash clusters that this section had, and was likely to continue to claim lives unless something was done about it. As a father of an L plater and P plater, road safety is definitely front of mind.

Contact us

If you have any questions or would like more information about the Baan Baa to Turrawan upgrade work, please contact our project team:

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Wide centreline and barriers installed in section three.

Next steps

Construction continues on section two

Section two of the project started in August last year.

This section includes widening 3.52 kilometres of highway, installing centre flexible safety barriers and constructing a pull over bay for oversized vehicles.

We expect to complete this stage in June 2022.



Work in progress on section two.

Development progresses on section four

The final section of the project is currently in development. We plan to start this work in mid 2022, with the project completion expected in 2023.

We are currently reviewing the design to include a pull over bay for southbound heavy vehicles as a result of community feedback.

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