

Kamilaroi Highway safety upgrade – Baan Baa to Turrawan

Commemorative Community Update

June 2024



Flexible safety barriers in Section 4, February 2024

Work on the \$34.6 million upgrade on the Kamilaroi Highway between Baan Baa and Turrawan is now complete, improving safety along a vital link in the state's north west. The project was funded under the NSW Government's Saving Lives on Country Roads program.

A look back on the project

In 2014, Transport for NSW, in collaboration with the Centre for Road Safety, completed a Road Safety Review on this section of the Kamilaroi Highway.

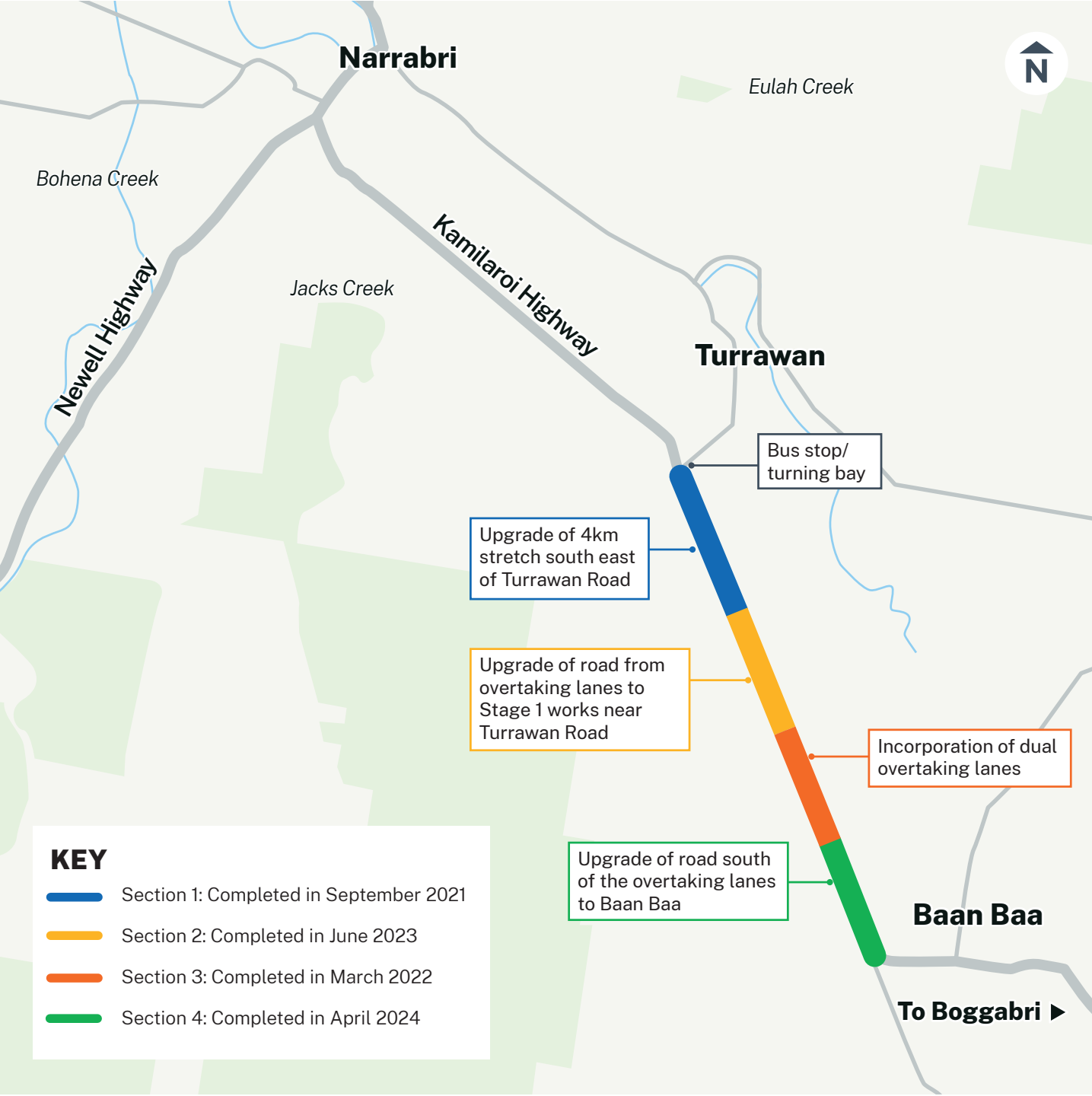
The crash history between Baan Baa and Turrawan featured a high incidence of cross centre line and run off road into object crashes and was identified as an area for improvement.

Between July 2012 and October 2019, there were 18 crashes recorded, resulting in four fatal crashes, seven serious injury and four moderate injury crashes.

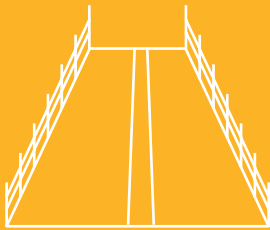
In 2019, work on the 17-kilometre section of the Kamilaroi Highway between Baan Baa and Turrawan commenced, aiming to provide smoother, safer journeys for local residents, tourists and freight operators.

Transport for NSW acknowledges Aboriginal people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pays respect to Elders past and present.

Baan Baa to Turrawan safety upgrades project area




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%**

Pavement marking

Now that all sections have been completed, our crews can finalise the installation of Audio Tactile Line Marking (ATLM) also known as rumble strips, and Raised Reflective Pavement Markers (RRPMs) along the length of the project. This will include:



16.82 kilometres

of ATLM on centre and outside lines to reduce the likelihood of head on crashes and run off road crashes



13.66 kilometres

of RRPMs to alert drivers when they leave a lane



Works on the Kamilaroi Highway, February 2024

What we have delivered

The project was delivered in four stages and was opened to traffic across all sections on 29 April 2024.

The key features included:

- 13.8 kilometres of flexible centre safety barriers and wide centre lines to reduce the likelihood of head on crashes
- 7.6 kilometres of flexible roadside safety barriers
- new 1.8 kilometre dual overtaking lanes to provide safer overtaking opportunities
- 2.5 metres wide sealed shoulders providing more room for vehicles to recover whilst remaining on a sealed surface
- widened clear zone on roadside to improve visibility and reduce run off road into an object crashes
- a pull over bay for oversized vehicles
- a designated school bus drop off zone near the Turrawan Road intersection.



160+ jobs

for each of the four sections of work, including staff from an average of 22 contractors/suppliers



422,589 tonnes

locally sourced crushed gravel and aggregate

Meet the team – Wade Burke

Wade is the Works Supervisor for the Baan Baa to Turrawan Project and has particularly enjoyed working closely with landowners and the local community as part of this project.

When did you start with Transport?

I started in 2020 as a Works Supervisor.

What is the best part of your job?

The best part is probably getting out on site and meeting with all the landowners. It's been a challenging project and it's so important to make sure we keep in touch with everyone who is impacted. The community has been great to work with and really appreciate it when we listen and respond to specific concerns.

What is your most memorable moment working on this project?

It was before my time, but definitely when we listened to the community and incorporated overtaking lanes into the design. It was a win for Transport as well as our customers.

Wade Burke, Works Supervisor



Working with the community

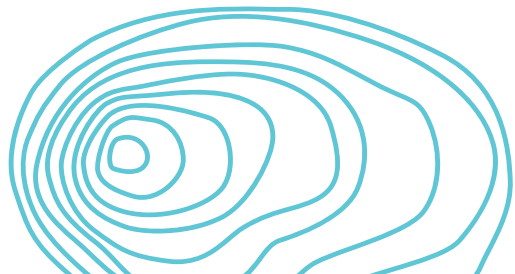
Transport would like to thank the community for their patience and feedback working on this important safety project. The project has been impacted by significant wet weather and the reallocation of resources during construction.

Following community consultation in 2019, which included feedback from emergency service agencies, Transport recognised the need to better facilitate emergency response, allow for safe overtaking and address the unique requirements for the transportation of agricultural and mining equipment.

As a result, 1.8 kilometres of dual overtaking lanes were constructed in Section 3 to facilitate safe passing of vehicles. We also constructed an additional pull over bay in Section 2, as well as more breaks in the lengths of flexible barriers to facilitate emergency response.

We also widened shoulders throughout the project length to allow:

- narrow agriculture equipment to travel on the shoulder when necessary
- to provide enough pavement either side to run two lanes of traffic under reduced speed conditions, and
- to maintain traffic flow during incidents while providing safety for emergency responders and workers.



"We are happy this project is now complete, delivering a smoother, safer road for all motorists in the area. The fact there has been no fatalities along this section for the past three years is promising, and we hope that by now having these important safety measures in place, this trend will continue,"
said Darrell Tiemens,
Mayor of Narrabri
Shire Council.



Overtaking lanes in Section 3, 2022

Contact us



1800 167 499



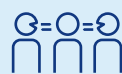
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