



Australian Government

BUILDING OUR FUTURE



July 2018

Concrete paving between Wardell and Coolgardie for the Woolgoolga to Ballina Pacific Highway upgrade

The Australian and NSW governments are jointly funding the Woolgoolga to Ballina Pacific Highway upgrade. Roads and Maritime Services Pacific Highway Project Office, Pacific Complete and its contractor partners are working together to deliver the upgrade.

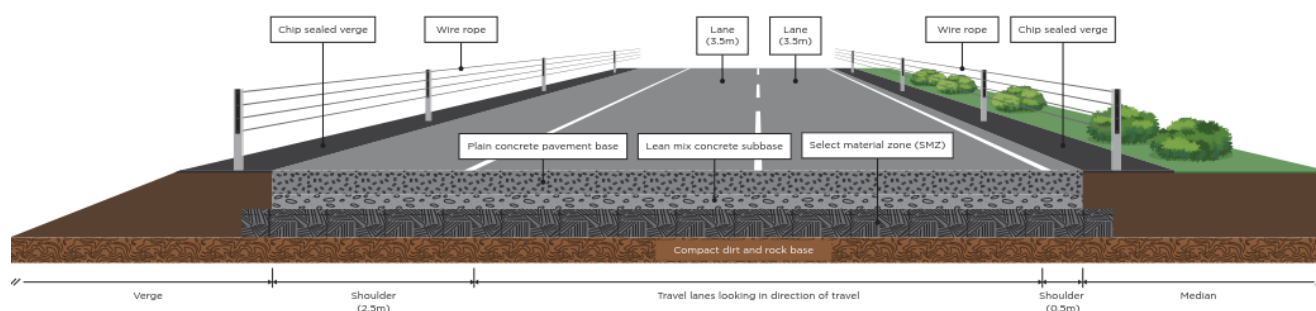
In mid-August 2018, the Woolgoolga to Ballina project team will start concrete paving the new highway between the Richmond River, Wardell and Coolgardie Road, Coolgardie.

The work will start with a concrete paving trial within the project work area south of Wardell Road, Wardell. On completion of the trial, concrete paving will move progressively as earthwork and foundation work is completed on the remaining 13 kilometres of the new highway alignment. Paving activity will continue until mid-2019, weather permitting.

All work will be carried out in line with the project's Conditions of Approval and Construction Environment Management Plan.

Paving operations

Concrete paving will be carried out in progressive, linear stages involving the delivery, tipping, spreading, compacting and finishing of concrete sub-base and base layers. The finishing process will involve texturing the concrete surface, spraying it with a curing compound, saw cutting the base layer to create joints and sealing the joints with a silicone sealant. Concrete paving typically involves three layers:



- **The Select Material Zone (SMZ)** is the first layer in the pavement process and represents the point where all required earthworks have been completed. This layer of compacted gravel is topped with a bitumen spray seal.
- **The sub base** makes up the second layer and involves placing a low strength concrete mix on top of the sealed SMZ layer and topping with a bitumen spray seal.

- **The base** is the third and involves placing a thicker layer of unreinforced higher strength concrete, over the sub base concrete. The base layer is the final layer of concrete that becomes the travelling surface of the road.

How will work affect you?

Concrete paving activity will occur during the day and early evening. Saw cutting will take place at night as the concrete must be cut within four to ten hours of being poured, depending on weather.

Saw cutting of concrete base pavement is standard practice in major road construction and is required for the final base layer of concrete to control cracking as the concrete road surface hardens. This process is necessary to ensure the long-term durability of the road.

Concrete saw cutting, by its very nature, is noisy. The noise associated with saw cutting is likely to be audible at nearby residences. We will contact directly affected neighbours to confirm the timing of saw cutting activity before each period of out of hours' work. The work will involve:

- Setting up work areas, including starting the paving machine and moving it into position
- Delivering of materials to the paving machine at each work area
- Concreting paving, including bitumen spray sealing and saw cutting.



Concrete saw cutting

This work will generate some noise, and light and low levels of vibration, but we will minimise its impact as much as possible by:

- Shielding noise generating equipment, where required
- Directing light from lighting towers away from residences whilst maintaining compliant lighting for road users and workers
- Turning off machinery when not in use
- Fitting equipment with devices to minimise noise, particularly reversing squawkers
- Servicing and maintaining plant and equipment so they are in good working order
- Monitoring noise so we can manage any potential impacts and adjust the work activity as required.

Work hours

Typically work will be carried out during the project's approved construction hours, which are:



7am – 6pm Monday – Friday
8am – 5pm Saturdays

In areas where residents live more than 200 metres from the work area, extended work hours from 6am to 7am and from 6pm to 7pm weekdays are allowed.

Work outside of normal construction hours

The project team will seek approval to carry out some essential paving activities such as saw cutting out of hours. We will contact directly affected neighbours to confirm the timing of saw cutting activity before each period of out of hours work.

Project vehicles including heavy vehicles are permitted to access site compounds before 6am.

For more information

If you have any questions, please contact the Woolgoolga to Ballina project toll free line on 1800 778 900 dial 1, W2B@pacificcomplete.com.au or visit the project website rms.nsw.gov.au/W2B.

We apologise for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience during this important work.



If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 1800 778 900.
