It’s full steam ahead for your new Echuca-Moama bridge

Construction on the vital second Murray River crossing is a step closer, with McConnell Dowell being awarded the contract to deliver Stage 3 of the Echuca-Moama Bridge Project.

Stage 3 includes:
- A new road north of the recently completed Warren Street roundabout in Echuca with one lane in each direction
- New bridges over the Campaspe and Murray rivers
- Two new flood relief bridges
- A new separated walking and cycling path, providing a safe and scenic link between Echuca and Moama via Warren Street.

The new Murray River crossing will provide drivers with an alternative to the existing bridge, which transports around 25,000 vehicles each day, including 1,500 trucks and heavy vehicles.

This new connection between Echuca and Moama will take thousands of vehicles off the existing Murray River Bridge and better link Victoria and NSW.

The bridge will also improve cross-river access for emergency services and support high productivity freight vehicles, improving freight access through northern Victoria and southern NSW.

With one lane in each direction, the new bridges will meet traffic demands for decades to come. However, we’ve planned for the future, with a design that allows for additional lanes to be added when demand is needed.

Major works are planned to get underway in early 2020 with the project expected to be completed in late 2022.
Over the past few weeks, we’ve been busy creating additional habitat hollows in Victoria Park to provide more shelter for local wildlife. Habitat hollows are cavities that form naturally in tree trunks or branches and provide shelter and protection for wildlife, however these can take many years to form. By using a team of qualified arborists and ecologists, we’ve been able to create these carved habitat hollows and traditional nest boxes much more quickly, providing a greater number and diversity of hollows in a much shorter space of time.

Before starting, we assessed the trees and surveyed the trunks and branches to help identify the ideal location for a hollow. We then created the habitat hollow using precise chainsaw techniques to protect the trees. The use of chainsaws is recognised as an environmentally effective practice that has been used successfully on other similar habitat improvement projects.

We’re creating new homes for the local critters

In further news, Excell Gray Bruni has been awarded the contract to deliver Stage 4 of the project. This final stage involves upgrading intersections in Moama to connect the Cobb Highway to the new Murray River bridge. It will include new traffic lights at the intersection of Cobb Highway, Perricoota Road and Francis Street, and a new intersection at Cobb Highway and Meninya Street. Construction on this stage is expected to start in late 2019 and take up to 18 months to complete.

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Contract awarded to build the Moama intersections

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Budding engineers learn from the Echuca-Moama Bridge Project

The talk of the town is true – the largest transport infrastructure project in northern Victoria is not only going to help make a big difference to the region’s development, it’s also a unique and accessible learning opportunity for future engineers.

The Project was proud to partner with the Committee for Echuca-Moama and Campaspe Cohuna Local Learning & Employment Network, when we recently hosted sixty Year 10 and Year 11 students from St Joseph’s College Echuca, Moama Anglican Grammar and Echuca College as part of Echuca’s Engineering Careers Day.

The Engineering Careers Day is designed to encourage students to consider a career in engineering. Major Road Projects Victoria Senior Project Manager Jason Warren shared his journey to becoming an engineer and following his presentation, took the students to Warren Street so they could see first-hand some of the direct results of good engineering.

One of the students summed up their experience by saying “I learnt that companies like Major Road Projects Victoria in Echuca are world class and that there can be potential career paths into the future.”

Wishing you a safe and happy holiday season

2019 has been a big year for the Echuca-Moama Bridge Project!

Most of us have now made Echuca or Moama our home, while others make the daily trek from other nearby places like Bendigo, Shepparton and Rochester to work on this exciting project.

Along the way we’ve heard many locals tell us how happy they are to see their long-held dreams for a new bridge finally taking shape.

We’re looking forward to an even bigger year in 2020, when major works on Stages 3 and 4 ramp up.

If you’re travelling on the road to see family and friends over the holidays, take care. We wish you a safe and happy holiday season.

Holiday operation hours

We’re taking a break over the December holidays and pausing construction works from Friday 20 December 2019. We’ll be resuming works on Monday 6 January 2020. We’d like to wish you all a happy and safe holiday period.

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