



The Hon Michael McCormack MP

Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development
Leader of The Nationals
Federal Member for Riverina

Senator Dr Sam McMahon

Senator for the Northern Territory



The Hon Eva Lawler MLA

Northern Territory Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics

Phillip Luck

Chief Executive Officer
Roper Gulf Regional Council

Mike Reed

Chairman
McArthur River Mine Community Benefits Trust

MEDIA RELEASE

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CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY AT ROCKY CREEK BRIDGE

Construction is underway on a new two-lane bridge and approach roads over the Rocky Creek Crossing on Robinson Road, Borroloola.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Michael McCormack said the Australian Government was jointly funding this project under its Roads to Recovery program as safer roads save lives.

“Many key industries will benefit from the upgrades to Rocky Creek Bridge, as this important corridor provides more reliable links throughout the Borroloola region,” the Deputy Prime Minister said.

“Local Territory business Advance Civil Engineering Pty Ltd will be delivering the works, which will support 60 jobs over the life of the project.”

“We are investing in our post-pandemic future by delivering lasting infrastructure which will kick-start our economic recovery and benefit Australians for years to come.”

Northern Territory Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics Eva Lawler said the upgrades to Robinson Road will improve an important connection for the town of Borroloola.

The Hon Michael McCormack MP

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“Making sure the town is connected, even after severe weather, is particularly important for ensuring the ongoing delivery of freight and essential services,” Ms Lawler said.

“Supporting local businesses and creating jobs for Territorians is exactly what the NT needs right now – a government who delivers projects that support our local economy and provides ongoing economic benefits to the community.”

Senator for the Northern Territory Dr Sam McMahon said this new 9.5-metre-high bridge will be one metre higher than the existing road level, which will increase flood mitigation and allow the town of Borroloola to keep functioning in an event of heavy wet weather.

“This project also supports local Aboriginal employment by providing job opportunities for the community during construction,” Senator McMahon said.

“The new bridge is due for completion by the end of this year.”

Chief Executive Officer of Roper Gulf Regional Council Phillip Luck said this has been a long time coming for the wider Roper Gulf region and Borroloola community members.

“The current crossing on Robinson Road in Borroloola is aged and on February 2017 Tropical Cyclone Alfred caused significant damage. The old bridge has been flooded many times over the years, causing community disruption,” Mr Luck said.

“Council has worked closely with the NT Government and the McArthur River Mine Community Benefits Trust to design a replacement crossing that will minimise the potential for road closures in the future and increase flood immunity.”

McArthur River Mine Community Benefits Trust Chairman Mike Reed said raising the bridge responds to the concerns of the local community, who in the past have been completely cut-off during severe weather events.

“The new, elevated Rocky Creek Bridge at Borroloola will be a key piece of enabling infrastructure for the Gulf community, tourists and businesses,” Mr Reed said.

“The Community Benefits Trust are proud to have taken the lead in initiating this project with Roper Gulf Regional Council and for the support provided by the Australian Government and Northern Territory Government.”

The total cost of the project is expected to be \$6.7 million, with the Australian Government contributing \$3.3 million from the Roads to Recovery Program, the Northern Territory Government contributing \$1.4 million, the McArthur River Mine Community Benefits Trust contributing \$1.4 million, and the Roper Gulf Regional Council contributing \$577,715.

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