



## **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**

7 October 2020

### **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

Parliament House Canberra | (02) 6277 7520 | [minister.mccormack@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:minister.mccormack@infrastructure.gov.au)  
Suite 2, 11-15 Fitzmaurice Street, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650 | [michael.mccormack.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:michael.mccormack.mp@aph.gov.au)

“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.

Ends.

**Media Contact:**

Mr McCormack – Joanne Williamson 0418 475 668 | Dean Shachar 0418 202 860

Ms Lawler – Jasmine Roussos 0439 003 248

Senator McMahon – Electoral Office (08) 8948 3555

Mr Luck – (08) 8972 9008

Mr Reed – Bridget McCue 0436 952 151