



INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES



GULF SAVANANAH WAY

PROPONENTS:

- Advance Cairns
- Burke Shire Council
- Carpentaria Shire Council
- Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council LGAs

PRIORITY:

Infrastructure

COUNCIL:

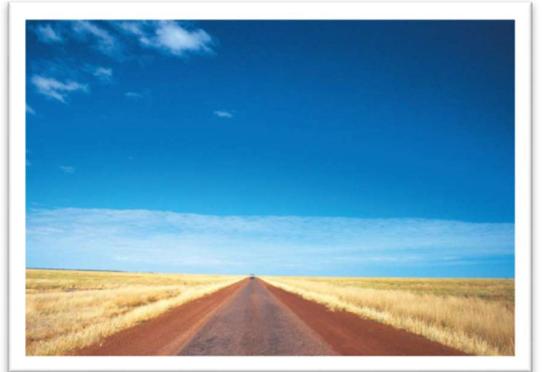
- Burke Shire Council
- Carpentaria Shire Council
- Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire LGA

STATE ELECTORATE:

Traeger

FEDERAL ELECTORATE:

Kennedy



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Savannah Way traverses Northern Australia, linking Cairns in Tropical North Queensland to Broome in Western Australia's Kimberley. The route is approximately 3,700km, crossing 15 National Parks, 5 World Heritage areas and a variety of natural routes across the Top End. Large sections of the North West Queensland route are unsealed and flood prone, isolating communities during the wet season and limiting the economic value of this northern road link.

To deliver improved accessibility and resilience, substandard infrastructure requires upgrading to provide a 7.5m wide bitumen sealed pavement, with concrete causeways through creek crossings and raised floodways (using 1.2m high culverts) through major river crossings.

On completion, the entire length of the Savannah Way will be sealed in Queensland with improved flood resilience that supports local communities, improves tourism opportunities and increases commerce and agriculture prosperity.

PROJECT COSTS AND TIMELINES

The total cost to complete the priority infrastructure sections is estimated at **\$186M** and is expected to be completed over a 10 year period with funds becoming available each year to allow the establishment of a local workforce.

Normanton to Burketown is approximately 221km with about 50% unsealed. This section requires pavement augmentation and bitumen sealing to 7.5m wide, some minor realignment, concrete causeways and a major culvert crossing at the Leichhardt River. The total cost for this section has been estimated at **\$100M** and is proposed to be constructed progressively over 10 consecutive years.

Burketown to Doomadgee is approximately 88km long and fully sealed, but has 2 major river crossings at the Gregory River and Nicholson River. Funds of **\$30M** funded over 4 consecutive financial years (equally in years 1 to 4) which will include some minor pavement, alignment and causeway improvements.

Doomadgee to NT Border is approximately 104km long with only 30% sealed. This section requires pavement augmentation and bitumen sealing to 7.5m wide, minor realignment and concrete causeways plus a major

The **Infrastructure and Policy Priorities** list is a range of initiatives that has been developed collaboratively by leading regional advocates and is regularly reviewed and updated.

river crossing at Branch Creek. Project funds of **\$56M** should be provided in equal instalments over the 10 year project period.

PROJECT LOCATION

The project is located in North West Queensland along the Gulf of Carpentaria from Normanton to the Northern Territory boarder, passing through Burketown, Doomadgee and Hell's Gate in Queensland and connecting to Wollongorang in the Northern Territory. The total length of this section is 313km with almost 60% of the road already sealed, however there are critical missing links that require pavement upgrades, bitumen seal, minor realignment of substandard curves, concrete causeways and 4 major river crossings.

RECOMMENDATION

- That the Commonwealth and State Governments support the sealing and improved flood resilience of the western Queensland section of the National Highway by providing project funding at 80% Commonwealth and 20% State Government in accordance with the Commonwealth State Roads funding model.
- Allocation of funds to be determined in 2017/18 financial year and distributed to the controlling Local Government authorities in equal portions over a 10 year period from 2018/19 to support and enhance local business.
- Project funds to support and enhance local work forces in Burke, Carpentaria and Doomadgee LGAs and improve prosperity for North West Queensland communities.

