


Infrastructure Pipeline

Warrego Highway (Additional Funding)

State/Territory: Queensland

Proposed AG funding: \$320 million

Mode	Major freight route	Major Commuter corridor	Commercial precinct
	✓	✓	✗

PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

The Ipswich (Dinmore) to Toowoomba (Helidon Spa) section of the Warrego Highway falls below modern safety standards, with a high average fatal crash rate of between three and 10 times that of a contemporary motorway standard. In addition, there is low flood immunity along this section of the highway, which significantly affects freight productivity and access for passenger movements.

There are also safety issues along the Warrego Highway to the west of Toowoomba that are not currently addressed under the existing Warrego Highway Upgrade Program.

The Warrego Highway is Queensland's principal east-west freight route. The section between Ipswich and Toowoomba is the gateway to western Queensland and connects Darwin and Melbourne to the Port of Brisbane. Strong freight growth to the Port of Brisbane, together with population growth, particularly around Ipswich, will place greater pressure on the highway. Warrego Highway east corridor improvements has been listed as a priority initiative by Infrastructure Australia.

This funding builds on the \$508 million allocated to 20 projects to the west of Toowoomba under the Warrego Highway Upgrade Program and \$80 million allocated to the Toowoomba to Ipswich corridor under the Roads of Strategic Importance initiative. This brings the total Australian Government funding for the Warrego Highway to \$888 million since 2013-14.

This project is expected to support more than 600 jobs over the life of the project. This investment is expected to be funded on an 80:20 basis with the Queensland Government.

PROJECT BENEFITS

- **Improve road safety and reduce congestion for all road users.**
- **Improve connectivity between people with jobs and services, and goods with markets.**

WARREGO HIGHWAY ADDITIONAL FUNDING

