



## **Submission on the preferred option for the upgrade of the Sunshine Motorway: Pacific Paradise to Coolum**

Coolum Residents Association (CRA) generally supports the preferred option which will greatly improve active transport links along and across the Sunshine Motorway corridor.

As we pointed out in our original submission, these links, particularly the east-west links across the corridor are vital to link the coastal urban areas with existing and emerging trip generators west of the motorway including the Corbould Road and West Coolum industrial areas, Oz Ski Resort, Blast Aqua Park and the Coolum Christian College.

Importantly these will also provide access to the Sunshine Coast Blue Heart (a partnership between Sunshine Coast Regional Council, the Queensland Government's Department of Environment and Science and Unitywater to, amongst other things, provide community and recreation opportunities through regional open space and trails).

However, CRA submits that the preferred option should be strengthened as follows:

### **Section 1: David Low Way to Finland Road**

- A safe and convenient connection needs to be incorporated at the southern end where the proposed active transport link appears to end on the western side of the motorway. This should be safely connected with the existing well-used active transport link across the Maroochy River bridge on the eastern side of the motorway.

### **Section 2: Finland Road to West Coolum Road**

- Ensure that the new bridge over the Maroochy River maintains the potential for a potential future east-west crossing of the motorway at ground level similar to the existing bridge construction. Although this crossing is not used at present it would provide a future opportunity for an attractive active transport path beside the Maroochy River linking to the Blue Heart.
- Provide an east-west active transport link across the motorway as part of the proposed West Coolum Road interchange. This would be consistent with the active transport proposals in SCRC's preferred option for the South Coolum Road/Suncoast Beach Drive/West Coolum Road project, and is also a key access point to the existing road network in the Blue Heart. Understanding that an active transport link in this location is likely to require a new structure as the 7m wide carriageway on the existing bridge would be inadequate for 2 travel lanes and a safe active transport path, CRA considers this to be a vital future link that demands inclusion in the final design.



### **Section 3: West Coolum Road to Coolum-Yandina Road**

- CRA strongly supports the proposed active transport links in this section of the motorway. However, CRA considers the proposed active transport link should be extended along Coolum-Yandina Road to the West Coolum industrial estate (Quanda Road), and the active transport link along the western edge of the motorway should be indicated as providing a potential future link to Peregian Springs and the existing Havana Road active transport overpass.
- The preferred option should facilitate future provision of an efficient direct express bus service on the Sunshine Motorway from Noosa to Maroochydore via Sunshine Coast Airport. Supporting infrastructure could include bus priority lanes at the Coolum interchange (and elsewhere as required), and provision for a future park and ride facility on the State land south of the Yandina-Coolum Road/School Road roundabout.