

# Safe speeds



Speed is a major factor in the likelihood of any road crash. The faster the speed, the less time there is available for a driver to undertake an evasive manoeuvre and the greater the impact force in the event of a crash.

To build a safe road system, speed limits should be set appropriately to allow drivers to respond accordingly to potential risks on the road. This is particularly important in urban areas, where there are more people and more vulnerable road users, such as motorcyclists, bike riders and pedestrians, as well as in high-risk rural locations with multiple at-grade intersections to reduce the chance of serious crashes.

## Key actions to deliver Safe speeds on the Bruce Highway and broader road network:

1. Support a speed limit hierarchy on the Bruce Highway that promotes the safety of all road users, considering the movement and place functions of the road.
2. Continue enforcement of speed limits, including consideration of future innovative enforcement technologies.
3. Use innovative design and technology to support safer driving behaviour.

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‘... use modern smart-motorways technology to assist vehicle drivers to manage their required speed, and have more digital signage assisting with traffic flows.’ Private citizen



Township Entry Treatment approaching Tully, completed 2021.

## Township Entry Treatments

A Township Entry Treatment is a speed management measure that involves providing new signs and line marking at the point of transition from a high-speed rural environment to a lower speed environment to coincide with entering a township. This treatment encourages drivers to adopt appropriate speed changes, reducing risks to vulnerable road users, such as pedestrians and cyclists and other road users in the town.



A VMS sign warns road users of a flood ahead (February 2022).

## Additional Smart Motorways technology

Smart Motorways treatments apply a range of integrated technologies to monitor vehicle flows, detect incidents and provide real-time vehicle management responses, such as varying the speed limit to improve traffic flow and safety. Intelligent Transport System (ITS) infrastructure, including Closed-Circuit TV Television (CCTV), flood warning systems, electronic signage, real-time ramp signalling and vehicle detection systems, improves safety outcomes.

The current Bruce Highway Upgrade Program is delivering additional Smart Motorways technology along a 60km section of the Bruce Highway between Pine River and Caloundra Road to assist in reducing stop-start travel, improving safety and delivering more reliable travel times.