

Coffs Harbour Bypass submission – Lyons Road to Englands Road

The bypass roadworks south of the Englands Road interchange should extend back to Lyons Road so as to include a suitable breakdown/safety/bicycle lane in both directions along the existing motorway.

Currently the highway between Englands Road & Lyons Road does not include a breakdown/bicycle lane. This is a poor oversight when that section of the highway was upgraded.

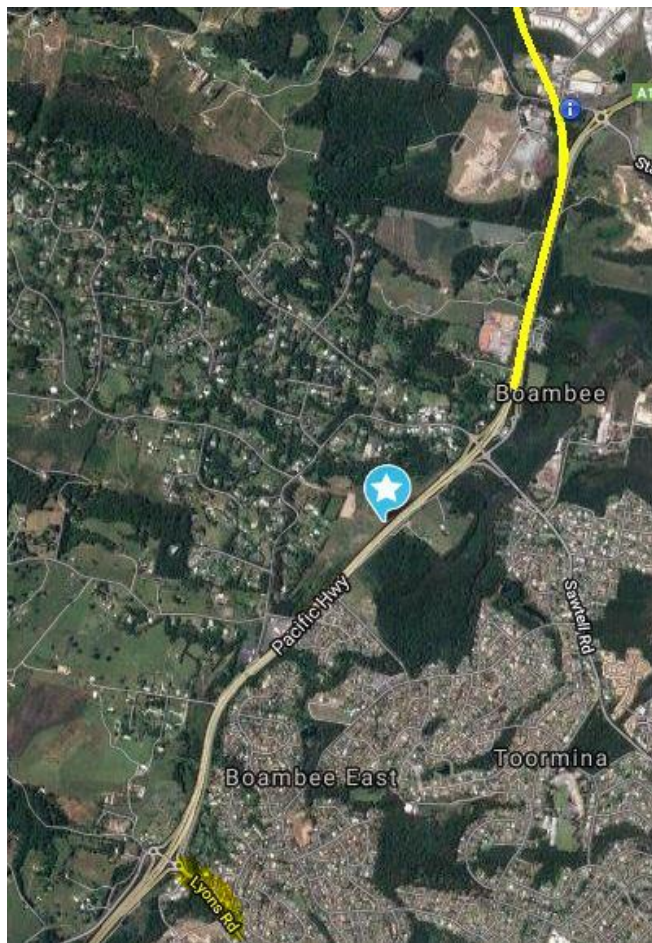
Once the dual carriage highway is complete, it will be strange to think that there will be just two sections in the whole highway from Raymond Terrace to the Queensland Border, and beyond, that won't have a breakdown/cycle lane i.e. the stretch between Lyons Rd & Englands; and Urunga Interchange to Mailman's Track Interchange.

The limited shoulders on the section between Lyons Road & Englands Rd is currently very poor - a steel safety barrier runs right to the edge of the motorway. RMS might argue there is a separate goat track, hmm bike/pedestrian path (on the east side of the highway only) that is unkempt, dangerous with roots, and blind corners, etc. It is mostly unused by keen cyclists/commuters as it is dangerous to use.

The motorway currently operates at 100 km/h in this section. Many vehicles (especially trucks) go faster, as the speed changes to 110 km/h south of Lyons Road. There are currently no shoulders for police, safety vehicles, or breakdown to be on the side of the motorway.

In addition, there is a dangerous entry onto the motorway at the BP service station at Sawtell Road interchange. The additional lane is required to safely merge traffic heading south from this service station.





Given the proximity of the current poor state of the shoulders on the Pacific Highway connecting from Lyons Road to the Coffs Harbour Bypass, this section should be included to be upgraded as part of the bypass project.