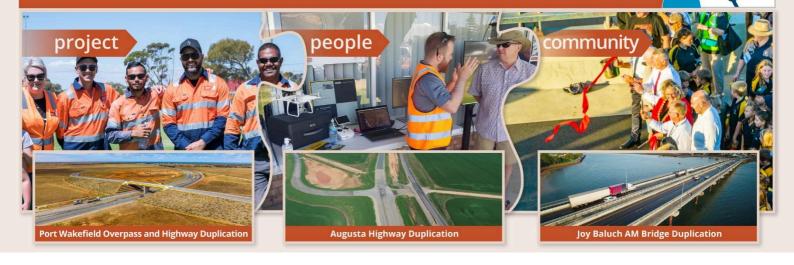
Port Wakefield to Port Augusta Alliance

Newsletter – November 2023





The Port Wakefield to Port Augusta Alliance is jointly funded by the Australian and South Australian governments (80:20) to deliver crucial connectivity to regional South Australia.

The projects delivered by the Alliance will improve traffic flow and reduce congestion for all road users and improve safety and freight productivity along the National Land Transport Network.

Works at Port Augusta

The Joy Baluch AM Bridge Duplication Project reached a major milestone in June 2023, when two lanes of traffic were opened, in each direction, on the bridge.



Joy Baluch AM Bridge open to four lanes of traffic

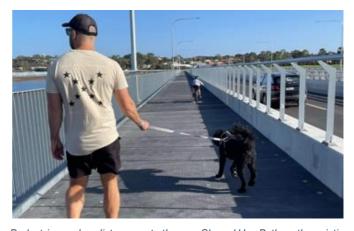
The new signalised intersection at Mackay Street also opened in its final configuration.

New electronic message signs, linked to the Department for Infrastructure and Transport's Traffic Management Centre, have been installed on the Augusta Highway. These signs will alert motorists of changed traffic conditions in the area.

Finishing works on pathways, median strips and Joy Baluch AM Bridge abutments are currently underway and are due for completion later this year.



New Mackay Street intersection open to traffic



Pedestrian and cyclist access to the new Shared Use Path on the existing Joy Baluch AM Bridge











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Works at Augusta Highway

Augusta Highway Duplication

All sections of the new duplicated Augusta Highway carriageway have been completed.

All traffic between Port Wakefield Overpass and Lochiel has been temporarily diverted onto the new carriageway. This means works can start on the adjacent sections of the existing Augusta Highway carriageway.

The project is expected to be completed in mid-2024.



A portion of the newly constructed southbound Augusta Highway carriageway between Lochiel and Nantawarra

Lochiel and Redhill Overtaking Lanes

The two new southbound overtaking lanes, located north of Lochiel and south of Redhill, form part of the Australian and South Australian governments' \$155 million South Australian Rural Roads Safety Package.

The overtaking lane near Lochiel opened to traffic in March 2023 and the overtaking lane near Redhill is expected to be finished soon. We are also repairing the adjacent sections of the existing highway which will see lane restriction at Lochiel until the end of 2023



New overtaking lane north of Lochiel

A Rock Star Returns!

Rock Hawg, a massive 100-tonne surface miner, has returned to Lochiel after visiting in July last year.

What makes this machine a star?

In one single pass, it can cut and crush the material, so it is ready to be used straight away on the project. This removes the need for rock drilling, blasting and crushing.

During its time on site, the machine is expected to shift 110,000 tonnes of material and reduce the road slope in several areas such as a section of Kangaroo Hill Road and near Hummocks Road.

This will deliver a road with fewer inclines and declines meaning cars and trucks will use less fuel (and produce less greenhouse gases) on the highway.



The surface miner in action

Works at Lower Eyre Peninsula

The Lower Eyre Peninsula Overtaking Lanes Project is nearing completion.

Continued periods of warmer weather are enabling the final stages of road maintenance at Western Approach Road (southbound overtaking lane near Port Lincoln) and Flinders Highway (southbound overtaking lane at Pearlah).

To safely facilitate these works, Nootina Road will be temporarily closed at the intersection with Western Approach Road. Detours and temporary speed and lane restrictions will be in place at both locations. Access to properties will be maintained wherever possible, with advance notice provided if there is a need to temporarily restrict driveway access.

These works are expected to be completed by late December, weather permitting.

We thank everyone for their ongoing patience and understanding as we work towards providing safer and more reliable road infrastructure.







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Works at Port Wakefield

Traffic through the township is now in its final alignment. All road markings have been completed, including directional arrows at the exit of several businesses within the township.

Maintenance works are in progress and expected to be completed in December 2023. Temporary speed and lane restrictions will be in place on the northbound and southbound carriageways of Port Wakefield Highway while these works are undertaken.

Pavement works are also underway on Balaklava Road. Please expect delays at this intersection until late December.



Port Wakefield Overpass, north of Port Wakefield



Port Wakefield township, looking north



Wakefield River bridges, north of Port Wakefield, looking south

Moving Tonnes and Moving Ahead

Since graduating from the pre-employment Indigenous Training Program at the Port Wakefield site, nine of the 11 trainees went on to work with the PW2PA Alliance on the Augusta Highway Duplication Project.

The young team members trained to use equipment such as watercarts, articulated dump trucks, rollers and loaders, which helped move up to 1,500 cubic metres of material per day as part of earthwork activities near Lochiel.



At the March ceremony, PW2PA Alliance Construction Director, Dallas Keane, presented Takari Owen with her certificate

Edwin Davey, the PW2PA Alliance General Superintendent and initiator of the training program, was very happy with the progress the graduates made: "They managed to hit program and budget targets, which was an excellent result," he said.

PW2PA Alliance Construction Director, Dallas Keane, added it was encouraging to see the graduates gain the confidence and skills to work in the industry and ideally go on to work as part of the PW2PA project team.



Edwin Davey, PW2PA Alliance General Superintendent, at the centre of the latest group of graduates, with his mentoring team at either end



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Community News

From the Album: Project Milestones

During the year, our site teams have joined the local communities of Port Wakefield and Port Augusta to celebrate major project milestones as part of the Port Wakefield Overpass and Highway Duplication Project and the Joy Baluch AM Bridge Duplication Project.

At the beginning of this year, we held a community celebration event at Port Wakefield Oval to thank locals for their patience during construction.



Some of the PW2PA Alliance project team at the Port Wakefield Community Celebration

In March 2023, the Port Augusta community celebrated the opening of the new section of the Joy Baluch AM Bridge. The event saw a community cavalcade, a colourful procession of dance groups and roving performers, and a parade of vintage vehicles go across the upgraded bridge.



Community cavalcade on the Joy Baluch AM Bridge at the Port Augusta Community Celebration

NAIDOC Week Quiz Night

In July 2023, the PW2PA Alliance partnered with the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) and Dieri Aboriginal Corporation to deliver a NAIDOC Week Quiz Night event at the West Augusta Football Club.

The event was attended by approximately 180 locals, including former AFL footballers Tony Modra and Troy Bond. The Alliance donated \$600 worth of prizes in the form of gift vouchers to local Port Augusta businesses. \$2,100 was raised and donated to the Royal Flying Doctor Service.



Back Row (left to right): James Armitage (NIAA), Troy Grover (NIAA), Ben McGee (NIAA), Neil Fisher (NIAA), Michelle Banks (NIAA), Renee Marden (NIAA). Front Row (left to right): Simone Brock (PW2PA Alliance), Cerise Campbell (NIAA), Joanne Waye-Hill (Dieri Aboriginal Corporation), Marika Forsyth (NIAA)

Community Night at Lochiel

In August, local community members, including farmers and residents, met some of the Augusta Highway Duplication project team at the Lochiel Community Centre to ask location-specific and technical questions about the project. The Alliance received positive feedback from attendees, who look forward to the future benefits of a safer, faster-flowing road network.



Denni from the PW2PA Alliance (left) responds to questions at the Community Night at Lochiel

Stay in touch

For more project information or to subscribe to project updates, visit our website at www.pw2pa.com.au If you would like to write to us, send an email to enquiries@pw2pa.com.au

If you would like to talk to a member of the project team, call us on 1300 161 407