

CoastConnect — Caloundra to Maroochydore

Project benefits

7 of 8 | Winter 2009



CoastConnect – Caloundra to Maroochydore is focused on ensuring the Sunshine Coast continues to be a great place to live, work and play by offering a balanced transport system.

Through introducing improved bus and cycle infrastructure, the project will deliver numerous benefits for residents and tourists. Some of the key benefits include:

Transport benefits

The project will deliver:

- fast and reliable express services between Caloundra and Maroochydore via Nicklin Way and the Sunshine Motorway
- savings of up to 15 minutes on a bus trip between Caloundra and Maroochydore in 2026
- increased numbers of bus passengers, by up to 40 per cent in 2016 and a further increase of 30 per cent in 2026
- upgrades to over 70 bus stops and new stations at Maroochydore, Mooloolaba, Kawana, Caloundra and Currimundi
- safer and more attractive cycling options
- reduced traffic congestion by giving people faster, more frequent, more reliable and more comfortable bus services
- a more pleasant travel experience by providing bus shelters and real time information.

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Social benefits

The project will deliver:

- improved connections to where people live, work and play
- improved public transport access to major destinations
- the ability for everyone in the community, particularly those without cars, to get to where they need to go with confidence
- the ability to travel conveniently without a car, which is an important component of a community's liveability. Public transport provides opportunity, access, choice and freedom – all of which contribute to an improved quality of life.

Economic benefits

The project will deliver:

- an image of the Sunshine Coast as a place that is easy to get around which is good for business and good for tourism
- a bus-based system that allows cost effective staging by constructing the highest priority sections first
- reduced costs of traffic congestion, and an alternative to paying increasingly high fuel, parking and vehicle prices
- reduced funding to finance new roads – one bus lane can carry the same number of people as up to three car lanes
- public transport facilities and corridors that are natural focal points for economic and social activities
- real estate that is more highly valued because it is served by good public transport.

Environmental benefits

The project will deliver:

- reduced greenhouse gas emissions by reducing car use – for every full bus, there are up to 40 fewer cars on the road
- more concentrated urban development – this reduces the urban footprint on valuable ecological and agricultural land
- increased efficiency and flow of bus movements and reduced fuel emissions through less stop-start driving.

Health benefits

The project will deliver:

- a more active lifestyle by encouraging people to walk and cycle to stops and stations - a five to ten minute walk to the bus stop helps to accumulate the 30 minutes of physical activity adults are encouraged to do every day
- reduced car use which helps ease the cumulative effects on our physical and mental health which result from global warming, air and noise pollution.

Contact us

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