

Demolition of the Old Fitzroy River Bridge

The broken Fitzroy River bridge will be demolished this week to make way for the new two-lane bridge.

Works are planned to start on Thursday morning starting on the west side of the river. To bring the bridge down, equipment will work from the temporary construction causeway, which has been built next to the bridge.

A 50-tonne excavator will take approximately one day to break up the top of the bridge using shears.

The segments will be collected and loaded into trucks, to be transported and stored in the construction area on the side of the river. A bund will be put in the river, so loose material is also collected. The material will then be sorted into concrete and steel for recycling.

The excavator will then be used to pull the remaining piles (sticks holding the bridge up) and the ends of the old bridge, the abutments, out of the riverbed. The piles and abutments will be removed from the river and stored in the construction site to be recycled and possibly reused around town.

Works will continue for a few days removing any bridge materials left in the river and placing them in the construction site.

Once the demolition is complete, piling will start. Piling is the work undertaken to install the new bridge piles (sticks) into the riverbed. There are 34 new piles which will be driven into the ground by a crawler crane with a vibrating hammer. Each pile consists of two pile casings, each 21 metre long, which will be welded together on site and infilled with steel reinforcement and concrete. This work will be ongoing until early August.



Image above: Safe viewing areas ★

Local residents may experience some noise and vibrations during this time. Although vibrations can be uncomfortable for some people, it shouldn't cause any damage to property.

To watch any of the works on the bridge, please follow the signs and keep to the safe viewing areas near the barge landing areas.

If the community have any questions or concerns please call Main Roads on 138 138.



LOW LEVEL CROSSING

The low level crossing is open. Semi-trailers are the largest heavy vehicles allowed to travel on the crossing.

Small road train breakdown/assembly areas have been set up on each side of the river to let road trains take their trailers across one at a time.

ROAD UPDATE - GIBB RIVER ROAD

Gibb River Road is open to all vehicles from Lennard River to Great Northern Highway. 4WDs with high clearance are recommended for unsealed roads.

Take extra care, reduce speed, and look for signage to make your drive safe.

APPLICATIONS FOR THE PREMIER'S RELIEF FLOOD PAYMENT ARE STILL OPEN

Applications are still open for the Premier's Relief Flood Payment. If any part of your primary residence was damaged by flood waters and each resident of the damaged home was 18 years or over before 10 Jan 2023, you can apply. You can use the \$1000 prepaid card to help pay for the replacement of clothing, tools, household goods and other personal items.

The team at the Flood Hub at the Fitzroy Crossing Visitor Centre can help you apply. Identification, proof of address and evidence of damage to your home is needed before you visit. The Flood Hub people can also visit your community if you can't come into the Hub.

You can also apply:

- Online at dfes.smartygrants.com.au/PremiersFloodPayment
- By chatting with the Hub Team when they visit your community
- By calling the Disaster Response Hotline on 1800 032 965 (Mon-Fri, 9am to 4pm)

INTEREST RATE SUBSIDY FOR FLOOD-AFFECTED SMALL BUSINESSES

If you are a small business owner affected by the Kimberley floods, you might be able to get a 4% interest rate on new loans to either repair damaged assets or off-set business carry on costs incurred due to the flooding.

To apply for this, you should:

- be a registered small business with an ABN
- employ less than 20 full-time staff
- operate locally and your main source of income is from the business
- be able to show that the loan required is because of the flooding.

Apply by 30 June 2024. Learn more at dfes.wa.gov.au/recovery/small-business

Wastewater pipe installation success

Water Corporation's new wastewater pipe is complete and is now taking the town's wastewater under the riverbed and across to the treatment plant on the other side.

When the old main (that was attached to the bridge) broke, Water Corporation had to quickly build a new one before the bridge was demolished.

They did this by using Horizontal Directional Drilling, where the pipe is drilled around 30m below the riverbed so it's protected from any future floods.

Water Corporation thanks the community for your patience and understanding throughout the flooding while we worked through a solution for the broken pipe.



Job Opportunities on the New Bridge

The Bridge Team would like to hear from interested community members who would like to work on building the new bridge.

There are a range of jobs including steel fixers, kitchen hands, plant operators, cleaners, administrators, mechanic, security officers and many more. The team will also provide training and mentoring support to assist in skills development and future employment opportunities.

If you are interested in applying, please call 0428 805 766 or email jobs@fballiance.com.au



Contact Information

Department of Communities Disaster Response Hotline

1800 032 965

**Mental Health Help -
Fitzroy Crossing**

9166 1700

**Mental Health Help -
Derby**

9193 3605

**After Hours - Mental
Health Support**

1800 552 002

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Crisis Support (24/7)

13YARN (13 92 76)

Flood Hubs

**Fitzroy Crossing
Visitor Centre**

4 Flynn Drive

8am-4pm

Monday - Thursday

(08) 9191 0904

**Broome Boulevard
Shopping Centre**

106 Frederick Street

10am-2pm

Monday - Friday

**Derby Housing
Office**

16-22 Loch Street

10am-2pm

Monday - Friday

Do you have a story to share or updates from your area? We want to hear from you! Contact us by phone (08) 9191 0999 or email media@sdwk.wa.gov.au