

Nerrena Road B-double Route Improvements, Leongatha

Project Description

Nerrena Road, Leongatha was upgraded at the intersection of the South Gippsland Highway and a curve at Ch14.3km to improve impediments and safety for freight vehicles along the route. Impediments included:

- The concrete median islands restricted large vehicles from turning right at the intersection of the South Gippsland Highway.
- Trucks were not able to track within the existing lanes of the 50m radius curve at Ch14.3km.

Because of these issues, Murray Goulburn Milk Co-operative Co. would not allow their large vehicle tankers to use Nerrena Road. This resulted in substantial detours for the transportation of milk in this area.

Output

The project delivered a simple solution as an appropriate treatment for the issue, which consisted of:

- Modifications to the T intersection with the South Gippsland Highway.
- Widening and improvements to the road at the curve (at Ch.14.3km).

Cost & Duration

- The project cost \$688,000 and was completed on budget.
- Construction was completed in December 2014, six months late compared with estimates. However, the project met expectations of being completed prior to 2015.

Working with others

VicRoads worked with Murray Goulburn, Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning, South Gippsland Shire Council and freight managers during the development of this project.

Murray Goulburn report that they now use Nerrena Road for milk pick up, for trucks and b-doubles with an estimated 12-16 trips a day using the route (previously large tankers were not allowed which resulted in large detours for the transport of milk in this area).

Benefits Achieved

Improved commercial activity

- Counts show an increase in freight activity for semis (+13 vehicles/day) and b-doubles (+4 vehicles/day).
- Freight vehicles save time and distance (4 min/trip and 7.5 km), resulting in vehicle operating cost savings.

Improved Road Safety

- Large vehicles can now safely track in their lane around the curve.
- Zero crashes have been recorded on the curve since the project was undertaken (reduced from 0.4 crashes/year).

The improvements will have lasting benefits for the route regarding safety.

More Information

For more information please contact:
chris.padovan@roads.vic.gov.au



Figure 1 – Site Photos

