

## SHIRE OF MINGENew ROADWORKS UPDATE

We regularly receive requests for maintenance works, or updates on planned construction on our road network. Please find following a snapshot of where the Shire's resources are being focused over the coming period.

### WORKS THROUGH TO JUNE 2019

#### 1. WA National Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (WANDRRA)

##### Summary:

Federally funded flood damage repair works across the Shire's road network. Approximately \$3.2m in value.

##### Status:

Completion due late March 2019.

Road Name	Description of Funded Works	Est % Complete
Coalseam Rd	Cleaning and reshaping of table drains, bulk fill of washout areas, scarify and recompact, repair floodway	90%
Colgate Rd	Gravel resheeting	80%
Depot Hill Rd	Cleaning and reshaping of table drains	0%
Enokurra Rd	Gravel resheeting, cleaning and reshaping of table drains, clear debris from fully blocked culverts, bulk fill of washout areas, scarify and recompact	5%
Manarra Rd	Bulk fill of washout areas, scarify and recompact, replace cast in-situ headwall endwall	100%
Michael Rd	Gravel resheeting, scarify and recompact on sections	95%
Mingenew Mullewa Rd	Cleaning and reshaping of table drains, bulk fill of washout area	0%
Mingenew South Rd	Cleaning and reshaping of table drains	0%
Mt Scratch Rd	Scarify and recompact, clear debris from blocked culverts, reconstruct floodway	5%
Mungaterra Rd	Reshape table drains, scarify and recompact	100%
Nanekine Rd	Reshape table drains	0%
Pintharuka West Rd	Scarify and recompact	80%
Switchback Rd	Gravel resheeting, cleaning and reshaping of table drains, cleaning of drainage structures, bulk fill of washout areas	95%
Telara Rd	Cleaning and reshaping of table drains, cleaning of drainage structures	100%
Wick Rd	Gravel resheeting, bulk fill of washout areas, scarify and recompact	95%
Yandanooka Melara Rd	Gravel resheeting, cleaning and reshaping of table drains, cleaning of drainage structures, bulk fill of washout areas, fill scour area and deep holes	15%
Yandanooka Morawa Rd	Scarify and recompact, cleaning and reshaping of table drains	70%
Yandanooka North East Rd	Cleaning and reshaping of table drains	0%

Road Name	Description of Funded Works	Est % Complete
Yarragadee West Rd	Cleaning and reshaping of table drains	100%

## **2. State Black Spot Repairs – Narandagy Rd between Yandanooka-Melara Rd and Manarra Rd**

### **Summary:**

Jointly funded State and Local Government project. Upgrade of the two intersections with Narandagy Rd, improvement of sight distances, clearing of vegetation, widen and sealing. Approximately \$240,000 in value.

### **Status:**

Completed Mid February.

## **3. Regional Road Group Project – Mingenew-Mullewa Rd**

### **Summary:**

Jointly funded State and Local Government project. Reconstruct and widen approximately 3.5km of pavement. Approximately \$440,000 in value.

### **Status:**

Works commencing.

## **4. Regional Road Group Project – Coalseam Rd**

### **Summary:**

Jointly funded State and Local Government project. Widening, embankment works and upgrade from gravel to 7m seal across 2.25km. Staged project which will continue into next financial year. Approximately \$375,000 in value.

### **Status:**

Works scheduled May-June 2019.

## **5. Roads to Recovery – Yandanooka North East Rd**

### **Summary:**

Jointly funded Federal and Local Government project. Formation and bitumen widening, surface correction, drainage upgrades for 1.5km section of Yandanooka North East Rd. Approximately \$250,000 in value.

### **Status:**

Works scheduled March-May 2019.

## **6. State Black Spot Design – Yandanooka North East Rd – Mingenew-Morawa Rd Intersection**

### **Summary:**

Study to redesign intersection between Yandanooka North East Rd and Mingenew-Morawa Rd; will likely involve some re-alignment of Yandanooka North East Rd as well as other measures to improve sight distance and safety.

### **Status:**

Contract awarded, to be completed through remainder of 2018-19 Financial Year.

## FUNDED PROJECTS FOR 2019-20

### 1. Regional Road Group Project – Mingenew-Mullewa Rd

Further reconstruction and sealing of a 3km stretch of Mingenew-Mullewa Rd (State funding component confirmed). Approximately \$450,000 in value.

### 2. Regional Road Group Project – Coalseam Rd

Further widening, embankment and sealing works on approximately 2.25km of Coalseam Rd (State funding component confirmed). Approximately \$440,000 in value.

### 3. Roads to Recovery

Funding secured through to 2024, projects and Shire co-funding timing to be confirmed.

### 4. General Maintenance

Fully Shire-funded maintenance activities (grading of gravel roads, pothole repair, minor re-sealing works).

## IMPROVING OUR ROADS

The Shire understands the importance of investment in a safe and highly functional road network, but often is unable to maintain roads to the standards that road users are increasingly requesting (especially with regards to increasing accessibility for heavy traffic/road trains). We have approximately 500km of roads in the Shire of Mingenew, around 300km of which is unsealed. In a typical year around 60% of Shire revenue is spent on our transport network and – while this is very significant in terms of Shire operations – it only allows us to conduct significant improvement or repair works on around 15-20km of our network, depending upon the nature of the work.

One of the restrictions that all local governments face with regards to road funding is that Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA), which we rely upon for much of our funding, prioritises roads under the Main Roads 2030 Program. Roads make it on to this list based on:

- Road hierarchy category (RAV Rating)
- Traffic count data
- Economic or social contribution of the road to the overall transport network
- Road development need
- Road development strategy

At present, the only Shire of Mingenew roads on this list are:

- Burma Rd
- Coalseam Rd
- Depot Hill-Allanooka Springs Rd (not including Depot Hill North)
- Mingenew-Mullewa Rd
- Nanekine Rd

An opportunity exists presently to request to add roads to this list, but MRWA's assessment criteria must be considered; as such, it will still favour more significant, higher-traffic roads like:

- Depot Hill Road North
- Mingenew South Rd
- Yandanooka North East Rd

The Shire has been actively collecting traffic count data for these roads (and others) with a view to putting them forward for consideration by MRWA in future assessment rounds (you may have seen our counters as you drive

around). That said, there will be roads which – due to their relatively minor nature – will never be eligible for this source of funding and must be funded purely by other sources, including Shire revenue (which is obviously limited).

The other significant source of road funding is the Federal Government's Roads to Recovery program (which is funding the work this year on Yandanooka North East Road). We have been recently notified that we have been awarded approximately \$820,000 for FY2019-20 to FY2023-24. This funding is less restricted in terms of which roads we spend it on, and – as part of further development of our longer-term road construction and maintenance program – Council will be prioritising areas for this funding as part of their budget process. This is a process where road inspections, as well as feedback from community members, can help to inform decisions.

One great challenge with roads funding is that – in almost all cases – it requires a matching co-contribution (typically at least 33%) from the Shire. As a result, it is a constant battle to fund the type of maintenance and renewal programs on our road network that many of us (ratepayers, Councillors and staff included) would like to see. Sometimes, even if the funding is available and a suitable project is identified, the matched contribution can be beyond our ability to meet.

We are not unique in this respect; small rural shires constantly struggle to meet the expectations of road users, especially as requests to run larger vehicles more frequently trends upwards – increasing the impact on road networks. That said, here in Mingenew we are actively working to improve our access to funding and develop improved road maintenance plans to more effectively spread that limited funding across our many roads. This process will require input from the community, so that we can more effectively identify priority projects and transport routes. It must also be tempered with the understanding that increasing RAV ratings or providing resheeting or bitumen seal to some areas will be beyond our ability to deliver under the current funding environment.