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WORK CONTINUES ON BALLINA STREET BRIDGE WITH WEEKEND CLOSURES

Work is continuing on the Ballina Street Bridge in Lismore as part of a $5 million project to protect the bridge from corrosion.

Thomas George, Member for Lismore, said the focus for the next six months will be to paint the upper trusses of the bridge.

“Work has been under way on the bridge since November 2014 to remove the existing paint, repair corrosion and coat the bridge with new paint to help reduce future maintenance needs,” Mr George said.

“The first stage of the $5 million project involved repainting the eastern approach spans and in July last year stage two of work started on the lower trusses and western approach spans.

“So work can be safely carried out on the upper trusses of the bridge, weekend work is scheduled through until the end of June, weather permitting.

“One lane of the bridge will be closed on Saturdays from 1pm to 6pm and on Sundays from 10am to 5pm for the safety of workers and motorists.

“The lane width will be reduced with a 40km/h reduced speed limit in place. Road users are asked to follow the direction of traffic control and allow extra travel time.

The bridge will remain open on the following weekends:

- Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 January (Australia Day Long Weekend)
- Friday 25 to Monday 28 March (Easter)
- Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 April (First weekend of the school holidays)
- Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 April (ANZAC Day Long weekend)
- Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 June (Queens Birthday)

“A small section of Taylor Road under the bridge remains closed to allow the maintenance work to be completed safely.

“Motorists should allow for extra travel time and follow the direction of traffic control, reduced speed limits and all signs.

“Resident access will be maintained at all times via Elliot Road and Foleys Road and pedestrians will be able to cross the bridge at all times via one of the two footpaths.”

The project is expected to be completed by the end of June, weather permitting.

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