MEDIAN RELEASE

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WORK PROGRESSING ON BALLINA BYPASS

After the opening of the northern section of the Ballina bypass from Cumbalum to north of Ross Lane in March, work on the remaining sections of the bypass is progressing well and it is scheduled to be completed mid-next year, weather permitting.

``The community will see lots of work across the length of the 12 kilometre bypass in the next three months,'"Minister for the North Coast, Don Page, said.

``Between the Bruxner Highway and Cumbalum, Pacific Highway traffic will be temporarily moved onto the new Bruxner Highway and Teven Road roundabout, footpaths will continue to be laid and all highway bridge work in this section will be completed.

``The new alignment of Teven Road will continue and landscaping and drain building work will continue at the Teven Road interchange,'"Mr Page said.

The Minister said there would also be lots of roadwork between Cumbalum and Ross Lane.

``Building of the bridge over the old Pacific Highway, now called Tamarind Drive, at the bottom of Tintenbar Hill will continue, as well as landscaping on the Ross Lane western and eastern roundabouts, which is due to finish in the next few weeks,'"Mr Page said.

``The concrete plant will also be removed and all local access roads in this section are due to be finished by the end of July.'"

Old Bangalow Road will be temporarily closed to allow remedial work to be carried out on a section of the northbound shoulder of Tamarind Drive.

``Work will be carried out on weekdays from 7am to 6pm and on Saturdays from 8am to 1pm between Bruxner and Cumbalum, and from 7am to 4pm between Cumbalum and Ross Lane,'"Mr Page said.

``If any work is occurring outside these hours, nearby residents will be advised.'"

While work on the bypass continues, the Ballina Bypass Alliance, a joint partnership between the RTA, Leighton Contractors, AECOM, SMEC and Coffey Geotechnics, which is contracted to design and build the bypass is celebrating their win at the 6th Annual Safe Work Australia Awards.
``The Ballina bypass project won the Best Workplace Health and Safety Management System – Private Sector award, which is an outstanding achievement of which the Alliance members can be very proud,'' Mr Page said.

When completed the Ballina bypass will improve road safety, provide uninterrupted highway traffic flow and easy access to and from the highway for local traffic.

For more information about the bypass, contact the project’s toll-free information line on 1800 209 484.