

Media Release

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Shire of **Ngaanyatjaraku**
ON A JOURNEY

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Great Central Road upgrades to enhance safety and tourist access



Caption: Great Central Road completed works.

The Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku has recently upgraded a twenty kilometre section of the Great Central Road that will provide improved road safety and access for people living in the local communities of Wanarn and Warakurna and passing through the Shire. The work includes widening of the road formation, additional pavement, and an improved vehicle driving surface.

Funded as a special initiative, separate to the major work funding being provided by the Commonwealth and State governments to seal the larger Outback Project, these works will help maintain and renew the gravel section of Great Central Road within the Shire until sealing is completed as part of the larger project.

Shire President Damian Mclean said the roadworks will improve safety and give the community better access to the full length of the road.

“The purpose of these works was to improve the rideability of the vehicle driving surface, strengthen the pavement, thus extending its useful life, improve the roads capacity to withstand rain events and to contribute toward eventual bituminous sealing,” said Cr Mclean.

“The improvements to the road surface will enhance safety, driver comfort, and wear and tear on users’ vehicles, enabling more visitors to access the roads,”

“It will also benefit the Ngaanyatjarra people by giving better road access and therefore, creating better connected communities.”

“We’re excited to see the excellent progress made on addressing road safety and we’re looking forward to seeing the locals and visitors travelling on the road safely.”

“We would like to thank Main Roads for providing the funding for these works, in addition to funding for the on-going sealing of the Great Central Road,” he said.

There are additional roadworks in the pipeline, with these works contributing to the road preparation for eventual bituminous sealing by Main Roads.

The design is also nearing completion for the construction and sealing of 20-kilometres of the road by Main Roads, which is planned to commence by mid 2022.

Since 2013 State and Federal Governments have committed \$164.1 million towards upgrading the Great Central Road, which makes up the West Australian section, including \$46.5 million for the high priority sections, near Laverton, Warburton and Warakurna .

The eventual sealing of the roads could boost tourism revenue, enabling 3,000 additional visitors to the region, which according to economic modelling, has the potential to unlock over \$830,000 in new economic activity annually.

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Caption: Completion of the drainage and formation widening works.



Caption: Supply of gravel for the road overlay