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Improving safety and access on Wanarn Road



Caption: Wanarn Road, aerial view of completed works

The residents of the remote community of Wanarn and service providers can now enjoy improved, safer access with the recent completion of upgrade works to Wanarn Road.

The 5.2km long project included widening of the road formation, strengthening of the pavement, improved roadside drainage and an improved vehicle driving surface.

Prior to the works, Wanarn Road provided quite a rough driving experience with corrugations, potholes and loose material being prevalent. The shallow crossfall of the road was also unable to disperse water to the roadside drainage facilities, and the table drains and offshoot drains were unable to adequately collect and carry stormwater away from the road surface.



Caption: Wanarn Road prior to start of works



Caption: Wanarn Road, works in progress

To boost road safety for locals and travellers, the road formation was widened to provide an adequate foundation for the improvements. Table drains and off shoot drains were then cleared, widened, and reshaped to enable adequate displacement of water. Selected gravels were added to strengthen the pavement and make it more durable to traffic.

Completion of the works has resulted in a road that is more comfortable to drive and better able to cope with everyday traffic.

The stronger pavement will also see the road cope with heavier vehicles better than it could previously without damaging the road, thereby increasing the life of the road, reducing maintenance costs, and enhancing the Shire's sustainability.



Caption: Wanarn Road, works complete.

This road upgrade is in line with the Shire of Ngaanyatjarraku's ongoing plans to upgrade roads surrounding the remote communities on the Ngaanyatjarra lands. State and Federal Governments funds totalling almost \$400,000 were committed to this important project in the current financial year.

Shire President, Damian McLean commends the engineering team for continuing to make great progress in improving road safety in the Shire.

"The improvements to the road surface should enhance road safety, driver comfort, and wear and tear on users' vehicles," he said.

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

Cr McLean would also like to thank Main Roads WA and the Federal Government for providing funding for these important works.

"The Shire has now completed half of the required Wanarn Road works and will continue to liaise with the State and Federal Governments regarding future funding for these infrastructure upgrades," said Cr McLean.

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