

# Precast bypass supporting local communities now and into the future

**Project:** The Smithfield Bypass Project

**Location:** Cairns, NT

**Master Precaster:** Stresscrete

National Precast Master Precaster Stresscrete was engaged by Highway Construction and Albem Operations (HAJV) to supply precast concrete structural elements for a major bypass project in Smithfield, Cairns.

This project is funded by the Queensland Government.

The Smithfield Bypass Project is building a new 3.8km road from the intersection of the Captain Cook Highway (CCH) and Cairns Western Arterial Road to the McGregor Road roundabout, as an alternative to the CCH.

The bypass will provide a safer, more efficient travel route for motorists, and separate through traffic from local traffic movements. It will improve traffic conditions on the local road network by addressing congestion.

Precast manufacturer Stresscrete has supplied structural precast elements to the bypass project, notably seven precast headstocks spanning 13 metres each, and totaling 490 tonnes. The headstocks are accompanied by sets of 25-metre and 15-metre deck units. As precast concrete elements are manufactured offsite in a



factory-controlled environment, the typical congestion of trades and materials deliveries is reduced on the construction site. The offsite manufacturing process allowed Stresscrete to deliver precast elements with consistent strength and finish quality across the entire project. When using precast concrete, the reduced congestion of onsite labor makes better access to the construction site and regulated precast factories can ensure the safest possible working conditions.

The implementation of precast concrete elements reduces the cost and time inefficiencies of onsite construction, and ensures a high quality, durable outcome that will be valued for many generations.

The Smithfield Bypass Project is expected to be completed late 2021, weather permitting.