



Fiona Simpson MP

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Help for storm-affected residents and businesses

With the incredible recent weather events, it has been heart-breaking to see the devastation and personal suffering caused by flooding and storm activity across the state during the last week.

People who are experiencing personal hardship due to the storm should contact the Department of Communities on 1800 173 349 for support.

Sunshine Coast businesses may also be eligible for assistance under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) including access to concessional loans of up to \$250,000. To check eligibility and apply for assistance, small businesses should contact the Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority (QRAA) on 1800 623 946 or visit the [QRAA website](http://www.qraa.qld.gov.au).

For those not affected, the best way you can help is by supporting the **Premier's Flood Relief Appeal** on 1800 811 700 or online at www.redcross.org.au or your favourite charity.

Regards

the power of humanity



Cr Jason OPray and Miss Summer Surf Girl entrant Emma Clark with Fiona Simpson MP on Australia Day

Maroochydore Road wins additional \$5 million funding

Further rehabilitation works on the Maroochydore Road are set to continue thanks to an additional \$5 million in funding from the Queensland Government.

I have campaigned for these much-needed repairs to be extended to include additional sections of this vital road following the completion of recent works and I am delighted that an additional \$5 million has now been allocated for further resurfacing works to take place in the 2013/14 financial year on other high-priority sections of Maroochydore Road.

In addition to this, work is due to start soon on a section of the eastbound lanes between the Sunshine Motorway and Jones Road.

This is great news for Maroochydore motorists who are already benefitting from the \$3.2 million funding for resurfacing work completed on the section between the Main Road/Grieg Street intersection and Sunshine Homemaker Centre.

Maroochydore bus station update

The successful tender for the bus station project is soon to be announced and work will commence on site shortly.

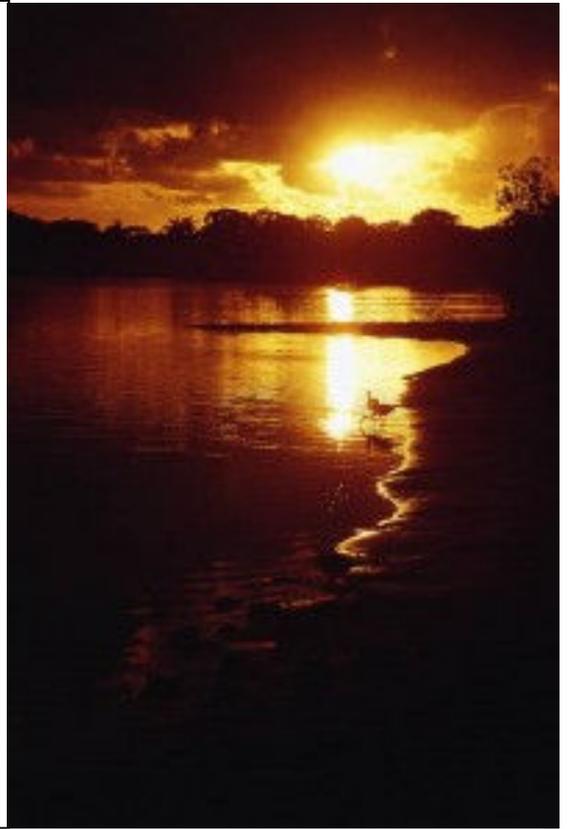
It is expected that construction will be completed in mid-2013, weather permitting.

Funding boost to help keep Maroochy River waterways clean and protected

Congratulations to Maroochy Waterwatch on receiving a \$100,000 funding boost to support its work to keep the Maroochy River catchment and tributaries clean and protected from pollution thanks to the Queensland Government's *Everyone's Environment* grants.

Maroochy Waterwatch and its band of dedicated volunteers do outstanding community work by carrying out daily litter patrols in the Maroochy and Mooloolah rivers. They also clean up the invasive salvinia weed throughout Sunshine Coast waterways and carry out tests to monitor pollutants in our waterways.

This work is critical to improving and maintaining water quality and biodiversity in the catchment which is a valuable ecological and recreational resource for our community.



Honour an inspirational woman



Queensland
Inspiring
Women
SPEAKER'S AWARDS

I am asking for your help in nominating an inspirational woman from the Maroochy electorate to be my guest at the inaugural Queensland Inspirational Women's breakfast I am hosting in Parliament House on International Women's Day.

This is an opportunity to publicly recognise and honour inspirational women from each electorate from around the State who are making a positive contribution to their community. I look forward to receiving your nomination of a special woman who has pioneering qualities.

Nominations close on 22 February, and the breakfast will be held at Parliament House on March 8. One candidate is chosen by each MP, but additional guests are most welcome at a cost of \$37.

You can send your nominations to maroochydore@parliament.qld.gov.au, with your name, phone number, together with the name of your nomination and a short summary of their achievements

Mooloolaba Harbour update

Dredging works have recommenced following a period of cyclonic weather conditions which saw the build-up of a sand shoal at the mouth of the Mooloolah river making conditions extremely dangerous for boats.

Hall's Contracting successfully deepened the channel to 2.5m and the larger Port Frederick dredge was brought in late last week to finish clearing the sand shoal, with sand being pumped on to the beach to help with much-needed replenishment.

I will keep you posted about discussions with Transport Minister Scott Emerson and the Department as we work to get the best long-term solution for this area.