

Note for Editor: Intended for publication in period: 18 to 20 February 2010

This is a regular update on progress with the Millennium Challenge Corporation Vanuatu Project compiled by MCA-Vanuatu and the Design and Build Contractor – Downer EDI Works Vanuatu Ltd on behalf of the MCA-V Project Team.

MCA Update #58 Efate Ring Road & Santo East Coast Road



Pikinini at Eton Primary School during a “Rod Sefti Awenes” session, Headteacher Albert on the left and Downer engineering student Keri Yukich on right. The attention of the pupils and hospitality of the staff and parents was much appreciated.



Advisory Speed Sign – this is the safe speed to drive around a corner comfortably. The arrow indicates the direction of the bend and the number is the maximum safe travel speed (in km/hr) for the corner.



La Cressonniere Quarry in full production with 30 ton excavator and power screen in foreground and aggregate stockpiles in the background.



Shaping and compacting the pavement near the 58 km mark between Epau and Pangpang.

Road Signs – What They Mean - Advisory Speed

Warning and information signs have been installed where the road has been sealed. Some of these signs have not been regularly used in Vanuatu. Among the new signs is a curve warning and advisory speed sign (see photo). The arrow is intended to indicate the direction and severity of the bend to motorists, and the number underneath the arrow is the advisory speed in km/hr. The advisory speed is the desirable speed for comfortable travel when weather, traffic and road conditions are good.

Santo Work

Sealing has now reached the 24.5 km mark near Natawa. Pavement construction has reached the 36 km peg and will continue progressing North of Velit Bay and the end of Section B2 at the 45 km mark. The rock lined drains on the Manioc Hill have been completed. The pipes for all the remaining culverts will be dropped off at the culvert sites – meaning there will be small groups of concrete pipes stacked on the side of the road all the way between Loreloraseri Quarry and Port Olry.

Efate Work

Culvert installation has reached La Cressonniere and will continue towards Eton village. Clearing and widening work has reached Forari. Side drains and pavement construction will continue near Pangpang.

Pavement overlay will also progress towards Pangpang. A “Rod Sefti Awenes Blong Pkinini” was held at the Eton village school as road construction work will soon be reaching this village. In Eton the village water pipes are close to the edge of the existing road, a team of villagers are uncovering the pipes so that they can be relocated clear of the new road. The Klehm’s Hill concrete pavement is almost 75% complete.

Traffic Cautions

Traffic flows on Klehm’s Hill will continue to be restricted to one lane while the guardrail and concrete pavement is constructed. There will also be some total road closures of up to 30 minutes while the concrete trucks discharge. Twenty-four hour traffic control will be in place and road users are urged to comply with the safety signs and the directions of the traffic controllers on site. Again, we ask all drivers to refrain from speeding. The roads are construction sites and used by pedestrians as well as vehicles.

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In addition further information can be found on the MCA – Vanuatu website at www.mcavanuatu.gov.vu.

Next update will be provided on Thursday 25 February 2010