

## MCA Update #60 Efate Ring Road & Santo East Coast Road



Narrow Road sign. This means that the section of road ahead is narrower than standard and drivers should slow down and be prepared to encounter vehicles approaching from the other direction which may be closer to the centre of the road than usual



Narrow Road sign with One Lane supplementary plate. This means that the section of road ahead is only wide enough for one lane of traffic and that all vehicles need to proceed cautiously and be prepared to give way to oncoming traffic.



Klehm's Hill – the end in sight, an agitator truck discharging as the work crew compact and finish the concrete near the base of the hill. The major concrete work is expected to be finished this weekend. There will then be a 7 day period for the concrete to gain strength before traffic is restored to two lane flow.



Give Way sign and road marking advising which traffic should give way and where they should wait until the road is clear where it is only one lane wide. If a vehicle has moved beyond the road markings and a second vehicle approaches from the other direction then the second vehicle should give way.

### Road Signs – What They Mean – Narrow & One Lane Sections of Road

Narrow Road and One Lane Bridge information signs have been installed where the road has been sealed. They are a different format to the “Narrow Road/Pont E’Troit” sign previously used. The Narrow Road sign is placed when the total width of the seal and road shoulders is significantly less than the 8 m standard width. Many of these locations are at existing bridges which are not part of the MCA-Vanuatu Project. Other narrow places are corners or hills eg Lelepa Hill where it was not possible to construct an 8 m wide road formation. Drivers should slow down and be prepared to encounter vehicles approaching from the other direction which may be closer to the centre of the road than usual. This requires even more care if any of the vehicles involved is a large truck or bus.

Places that are wide enough for only one lane of traffic have the Narrow Road sign with a One Lane supplementary plate underneath it. One side of the one lane section will have road markings painted

across the traffic lane and a Give Way sign on a pole at the point where approaching traffic should give way to any vehicle already in or approaching the One Lane section.

### **Santo Work**

Clearing has reached the 40 km mark and culvert installation is past the 42 km mark. Due to recurring wet weather the pavement construction remains at the 36 km peg. All operations will continue to progress North towards the end of Section B2 at Hog Harbour. Work in Section C (Hog Harbour to Port Olry) is expected to start this week. 26.5 km of sealing has been completed and the bitumen sprayer and other sealing equipment have returned to Efate.

### **Efate Work**

Culvert installation is now underway south of Eton village. Clearing and widening work has reached La Cressonniere. Pavement construction has reached Pang Pang. The final pour for the Klehm's Hill concrete pavement is expected this weekend. After a seven day period for the concrete to gain strength traffic will be restored to two lanes. After this there will be several weeks of guardrail, drainage and tidy up work to do before the work is fully completed. Eton village water pipe relocation work will continue.

### **Safe Employees of the Month**

Reflecting the high workload and sustained progress made during the month several awards were made for February. Firstly, traffic controllers – Margaret Jonathon, Stephanie Jonathon, Rose David and Maina Bani (all from Pang Pang) for safely controlling traffic on routes with large numbers of trucks working. Secondly Esra Kalo (another traffic controller but from Takara) for proactive safety reporting and thirdly Matthew Smith (from Paeroa) for coning off an area of road where branches from a wind damaged tree may have fallen. These people will be presented with their awards at a regular tool box meeting later this month.

### **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.

Enquiries to: Catherine Malosu  
Environment Social Impact Officer  
MCA-Vanuatu  
Phone: 26918  
[cmalosu@vanuatu.gov.vu](mailto:cmalosu@vanuatu.gov.vu)

or

Craig Smart  
Stakeholder Liaison Manager  
Downer EDI Works  
Phone 5585 002  
[craig.smart@downerediworks.co.nz](mailto:craig.smart@downerediworks.co.nz)

In addition further information can be found on the MCA – Vanuatu website at [www.mcavanuatu.gov.vu](http://www.mcavanuatu.gov.vu).

**Next update will be provided on Thursday 11 March 2010**