

Note for Editor: Intended for publication in period: 29 to 31 July 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 #79 Efate Ring Road & Santo East Coast Road



Downer plant and personnel participating in the Vila clean up prior to the Independence Celebrations



Mother Hubbard Road Safety Fashion, MCC's Sarah Sieloff in her road safety theme fashion at the Port Vila races



The recently restored road at La Cressonniere has now been sealed.



Downer rollers, grader and a water truck work on the final section of unsealed pavement near Eton Beach.

Visit by MCC's Congressional and Public Affairs Amanda Burke:

MCC-Vanuatu wishes to thank chiefs and villagers, Government at all levels, private sector representatives, and development partners for their willingness to provide comment on the impact of the road projects. It is clear that the MCA-V brand is well recognized and that the impact of the upgraded roads is widespread. As one interviewee said: "The roads are a miracle!" MCC thanks you for your contributions. We will keep you advised of media coverage resulting from the array of photographs, videos and interviews that were collected.

Santo Work

Pavement overlay has now been completed all the way to Port Olry. Final trimming has reached the 56 km mark and there are only 2 km more to do before reaching the end of the Project length at Port Olry. Aggregate production has finished from the Maour Quarry and the drainage work in Hog Harbour is now half complete. Sealing of the total length from Manioc to Port Olry is expected to resume in mid August. Rock lined drain work has been completed.

Efate Work

Pavement overlay has now been completed on Efate, and final trimming and shaping of the pavement surface in advance of the sealing team is now underway. Sealing of the La Cressonniere Crossing section that was damaged during the recent heavy rain has now been completed and 77 km have now been sealed. The sealing has now reached Nangus, just past Eton Village. The floodway at Lakenasua is now complete and open to traffic. Guardrail installation continues at the 67 km mark near Forari. Replacement of the timber deck on the Tanoliu Bridge has been completed and work is underway on the Ulei Bridge.

Sarah's Safety Dress at Vanuatu Race Day

MCA-V's M&E Intern, Sarah Sieloff, from the U.S.A., wanted to use the Kiwanis Race Day to remind people of the importance of road safety, so she had an island dress designed by Marie Shing of Marie's Creations at Centre point.

"This dress expresses what I've found to be true in conversations with ni-Vanuatu from around Efate and Santo, and from all walks of life: people in our communities believe that it is important to read, understand, and obey traffic signs and signals, and they believe that every driver has a responsibility to drive safely and smartly...."

Traffic Conditions and Road Safety

During the Independence Celebrations the roads will be busier than normal and road users are urged to comply with the safety signs and the directions of traffic controllers at work sites. Again, we ask all drivers to refrain from speeding anywhere on the sealed road or where construction is underway. The roads are construction sites and used by pedestrians as well as other vehicles.

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

Next update will be provided on Thursday 5 August 2010