Queensland Rail is replacing the timber rail bridge over Oakey Creek on the Western line, approximately 30 kilometres west of Toowoomba.

As part of this project, ageing timber bridges and culverts will be replaced with steel or concrete structures to improve reliability, operational safety and efficiency of services on the rail corridor.

The Oakey Creek bridge is nearing the end of its life and is a critical piece of infrastructure serving the region.

What is involved?

The replacement bridge will be constructed on the existing alignment and the current rail height will be maintained.

Queensland Rail investigated a range of possible bridge replacement options for this project. Investigations also considered geotechnical conditions, hydraulic modelling, environmental and cultural heritage surveys, and constructability issues.

Queensland Rail is undertaking these works in collaboration with Toowoomba Regional Council to ensure the bridge upgrade aligns with Council’s strategic requirements.

Following a competitive tender process, the contract to replace the bridge was awarded to Davbridge Constructions in June 2015.

Bridge replacement works are expected to commence on site in July 2015, with the entire project due to be completed by the end of 2015, depending on scheduled track closures, train movements and weather.

Safety is our priority

Safety is the number one priority for Queensland Rail.

In order to provide a safe work environment for workers and the community, public access to the construction site will be restricted during works.

Temporary traffic management measures will be in place during construction for the safety of project workers, the local community, pedestrians and motorists.
Construction impacts

Queensland Rail will be working closely with Toowoomba Regional Council to understand the project impacts and minimise disruption to the community during construction.

The local community may notice increased vehicle movements around the work zone including delivery of plant and equipment.

Access under and around the bridge will be restricted to authorised personnel throughout construction.

Temporary construction impacts for nearby residents may include access, night works, vehicle movements and noise from piling works and materials delivery.

The removal of the old bridge and installation of the new structure is scheduled to occur over a 60-hour period in October 2015, with a temporary closure of the rail line and around-the-clock construction works.

For after hours works during the planned track closure, nearby residents may experience some noise from truck movements and construction activity, and will see cranes and lighting equipment at night.

Residents and stakeholders will be given advance notification of periods of heightened activity, temporary access routes and property restrictions, excessive noise or night works, in accordance with Queensland Rail’s community engagement guidelines.

Queensland Rail apologises for any inconvenience and thanks stakeholders and the local community for their cooperation during these important works.

Keeping you informed

Queensland Rail is committed to keeping stakeholders and the community informed about timber bridge replacements on the Western line corridor.

For more information about this project, telephone Queensland Rail’s customer feedback team on 13 16 17, 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday, or email communityengagement@qr.com.au.