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COMMISSIONING OF KACIDAVUI CROSSING AND OPENING OF ADDITIONAL KEY INFRASTRUCTURE IN CAKAUDROVE AND BUA



On September 24th the Honorable Minister of Public Works, Meteorological Services, and Transport, Ro Filipe Tuisawau, officiated the commissioning of the Kacidavui Crossing along Nakobo Road in Cakaudrove, marking a significant milestone in Fiji's ongoing efforts to enhance rural connectivity and infrastructure resilience.

The new Kacidavui Crossing, completed at a cost of approximately \$661,000, will serve the village of Vunisavisavi and the heritage site of Thomas Baker. It promises safe, reliable access vital for daily activities, cultural engagements, and community development. Minister Tuisawau emphasized that this project reflects the government's unwavering commitment to bridging rural gaps and fostering inclusive growth.

"Today's opening is more than just a crossing—it's a reaffirmation of our dedication to connecting communities, supporting economic activities, and safeguarding our cultural heritage," Minister Tuisawau stated.

"These infrastructure upgrades enable farmers to reach markets, students to access schools, and families to access healthcare, all while preserving our rich cultural sites for future generations," he added.

Previously a splash crossing, the site has now been upgraded to a low-level crossing, greatly improving safety for commuters, particularly for women and school children.

Head of School at Nakobo District School, Ms. Peniana Pickering, explained that students previously had to cross the river during the rainy season, which was not safe when the water level was high.

"Witnessing the opening of the new crossing today has filled us with joy, and we are truly grateful to everyone who contributed to making this project a reality," Ms. Pickering said.

In addition to the Kacidavui Crossing, Minister Tuisawau announced the opening of other critical crossings designed to benefit communities in the Tikina of Lekutu and Wainunu in Bua, as well as Wairiki in Cakaudrove:

- Namuavoivoi 2 Crossing at Nabilodra—costing approximately \$671,000, this crossing will improve access for the Tikina of Lekutu and Wainunu, facilitating economic growth and community connectivity.
- Wairiki Crossing on Navakuru Road—with an investment of around \$707,000, this project will enhance safe passage for residents and students, including Navakuru Village and Primary School.
- Bagasau Crossing on Nakobo Road—

valued at roughly \$840,000, this development will serve the villages of Bagasau, Nakobo, and Vunisavisavi, opening new avenues for economic activity, tourism, and cultural exchange.

The Honorable Minister also acknowledged the vital role played by contractors Fair Deal and RPA, whose dedication and professionalism ensured the timely completion of these projects. He also expressed gratitude to the Commissioner North's Office for their unwavering support.

"These infrastructure developments are essential arteries that connect our people to opportunities," Minister Tuisawau added.

"They are investments in our future—reducing travel times, boosting economic activities, and strengthening our resilience against climate change and natural disasters."

He called on community members to continue caring for and maintaining these vital assets to ensure their longevity and ongoing benefit.



VEGETATION CONTROL WORKS LAUNCHED



On July 21, the Minister for Public Works, Transport, and Meteorological Services, Hon. Ro Filipe Tuisawau, officially launched the Vegetation Control Works at the Fiji Roads Authority Depot in Nausori, in partnership with the government, local communities, and key stakeholders.

Through this program, the local communities, particularly those in rural and village settings, will be engaged to take a lead role in the routine maintenance of our rural road infrastructure. Tasks such as vegetation control, minor repairs, and general upkeep will now be managed by the people who use these roads every day.

The initial rollout phase includes 32 groups from across the Central, Eastern, Northern, and Western divisions. These groups will collectively maintain and cover a total of 560 kilometers of road network across the country.

This not only ensures vital infrastructure is kept in good condition, but it also means that these groups will earn a substantial amount for the hard work and commitment they bring to this effort.

Out of the 32 groups engaged, 15 groups were present at the launch to receive their contracts.



OUTLOOK TO THE NORTHERN DIVISION: A LOOK AT RECENT ROAD PROJECTS



In recent months, the Northern Division has been a hub of activity as the Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) continues to carry out essential roading infrastructure projects aimed at improving road conditions and boosting connectivity for both rural and urban communities. With a focus on road resealing, new culvert crossings, and key rural road upgrades, these works are part of a broader commitment to deliver safer and more reliable transport networks across the region.

Efforts by the Fiji Roads Authority to enhance urban road access in Labasa have resulted in major improvements along Main Street, which is now safer and more accessible for all road users. FRA has also upgraded the Labasa Hospital Road, providing much-needed relief for motorists and ensuring smoother access for emergency vehicles.

However, the focus hasn't only been on urban roads. FRA has extended its work into rural areas, improving access to villages, farm roads, and remote communities. These efforts support farmers in transporting produce to markets, help students travel to school safely, and strengthen connections between people, services, and opportunities—ultimately improving the overall quality of life.

1. ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

Road improvement works play a vital role in ensuring better access and smoother travel for all road users. These improvements not only support the daily movement of communities but also contribute to economic activity, emergency access, and overall safety. By focusing on essential maintenance and upgrades, the FRA is committed to providing reliable and safer roads for motorists. FRA successfully carried out essential roading improvements

in the Northern Division as follows;

- 1,950 meters of Labasa Hospital Road resealed.
- 900 meters of Labasa town's Main Street asphalt overlay.
- 600 meters of Wainiveitala Settlement Road in Savusavu improved by carrying out drainage works, reshaping the road crossfall, and gravelling.
- 2,500 meters of Savudrodro Farm Road in Savusavu improved by carrying out drainage works, reshaping the road crossfall, and gravelling.
- 300 meters of Nakabuta Settlement Road in Savusavu were improved by carrying out drainage works, reshaping the road crossfall, and gravelling.
- 15,000 meters of Wainikoro Road, 14,500 meters of Nabouwalu Road, 16,950 meters of Lakeba/Visoqo Road, and 7,400 meters of Natewa West Coast Road were excavated and cleared; water channels and high shoulders were removed.
- 1,500 meters of Nayarabale Road, 420 meters of Baleyaganiga Village Access Road, and 1,000 meters of Natabe Road underwent unsealed rehabilitation works.

2. ROAD RESEALING WORKS (UNSEALED TO SEALED UPGRADES)

Several roads across the Northern Division have been upgraded from unsealed to sealed surfaces, significantly improving their durability and driving conditions. These resealing works are essential in preventing further deterioration, reducing dust and erosion, and providing a smoother and safer experience for all road users.

Several school frontages have recently been upgraded to improve access, road durability, and safety for students. Over the past few months, four schools have

benefited from these improvements, bringing much-needed relief to students and the surrounding communities. At Nasavusavu Public School, more than 120 meters of road have been upgraded, directly benefiting 380 students. Head Teacher Mr. Jimi Delaivoni expressed his gratitude, noting that the previous road was narrow, in poor condition, and particularly difficult during the rainy season.

“We are so happy and thankful to the Fiji Roads Authority for reaching out to rural schools. This is a great initiative, and we truly welcome the road upgrade. Our students can now walk safely to school, even during rainy weather, as the new sealed road has greatly improved accessibility and transportation,” he said.

Korotolutolu Primary School frontage in Seaqaqa also received an upgrade, with 310 meters of road now sealed. Community member Ms. Laisa Lalawai, who lives directly opposite the school, shared her appreciation.

“The road was very dusty before and the dust would settle on the school corridors, but now it has brought so much relief, and we thank FRA for this,” she said.

The following roads have undergone substantial upgrades to improve access for surrounding communities:

- 1,260 meters of Buca Bay Road, Savusavu – upgraded to seal (works ongoing).
- 180 meters of Buca Primary School Road, Savusavu – upgraded to seal.
- 200 meters of Yaroi Village Road, Savusavu – upgraded to seal.
- 400 meters of Drekeniwai Village Road, Savusavu (frontage) – upgraded to seal (works ongoing)
- 200 meters of Natewa Village Road, Savusavu (frontage) – upgraded to seal (works ongoing).
- 120 meters of Nasavusavu Public School Road, Savusavu (frontage) – upgraded to seal (works ongoing).
- 310 meters of Navidamu Road in Macuata Province (Korotolutolu Primary School frontage) – upgraded with chip sealing.
- 296 meters of Navidamu Road in Macuata Province (Primary School frontage) – upgraded with chip sealing.
- 740 meters of Valebasoga Road, Labasa – upgraded with chip sealing (works ongoing).



3. NEW CULVERT CROSSINGS

Culvert crossings play a vital role in improving road safety and accessibility, especially in rural areas. Culverts prevent flooding, erosion, and waterlogging that can damage road surfaces and make travel dangerous.

In remote communities, culvert installations ensure that roads remain passable during heavy rains, enabling children to reach schools, health centers, markets, and other essential services without disruption. These crossings not only protect the integrity of rural roads but also provide safer and more reliable connections for vehicles and pedestrians alike, supporting daily life and economic activities.

Over the past three months, the Northern Division has been actively working within communities to construct culvert crossings that have greatly improved access and safety for villagers and surrounding settlements. Below are some of the culvert crossings that have been completed:

- Construction of culvert crossing at Wairiki, Navakuru Road, Suweni (15-meter reinforced concrete deck with 10-meter approach slabs)



- Construction of culvert crossing at Bagasau Village, Bagasau Road, Savusavu (25-meter reinforced concrete deck with 10-meter approach slabs)
- Construction of culvert crossing at Kacidavui, Bagasau Road, Savusavu (15-meter reinforced concrete deck with 20 meters)
- Construction of culvert crossing at Dakuniba Village, Cakaudrove (15-meter reinforced concrete deck with 5-meter approach slabs)
- Construction of culvert crossing at Natuvu, Viani Bay, Cakaudrove (16-meter reinforced concrete deck with 15 meters).
- Construction of a culvert crossing at Nabilodra, Namuavoivoi Road, Bua (37-meter reinforced concrete deck with 20-meter approach slabs).

4. RURAL ROAD UPGRADES

Upgrades to several rural roads have greatly enhanced access for remote communities, schools, and agricultural areas. The ongoing works—including road widening, graveling, and surface strengthening—are aimed at ensuring safer, more reliable travel throughout the year. For many residents, these improvements are not only easing daily commutes but also creating economic opportunities by making it easier to transport produce and reach essential services.

Below are some of the rural roads currently undergoing upgrades under the Rural Roads Program:

- Nasau Naviqiri Road, Bua – Clearing works
- Savusavuitaga Nasealevu Road,

Macuata – Drainage and graveling works ongoing

- Nasasa Nadogo Valovoni Road, Macuata – Culvert upgrading works (timber crossing replaced with culvert pipes)
- Construction of a new road in Lea Vunilagi, Navatu, Cakaudrove (in conjunction with the Public Works Department)—FRA is carrying out graveling works
- Construction of a new road in Wailevu Salia, Tunuloa, Cakaudrove (in conjunction with the Public Works Department)—FRA is carrying out graveling works.

These road upgrades are part of ongoing efforts to improve and maintain road conditions across the Northern Division. In addition to sealing and upgrading roads, teams are continuously working on other essential tasks such as removing high shoulders (raised edges along the road that trap water), clearing and cleaning water channels to improve drainage, and maintaining bridges to ensure safe and reliable travel.

These routine works are vital to keeping roads in good condition, especially during the rainy season, and ensuring that communities remain connected to essential services.



EASTERN ISLAND FOCUS: NEW ACCESS ROAD BRINGS RELIEF FOR VILLAGES ON KORO ISLAND



Access to reliable roads and essential services plays a vital role in improving people's quality of life, and recent infrastructure developments are bringing new hope to Fiji's maritime communities.

On Koro Island, the construction of a new two-kilometer access road is set to deliver similar benefits to the residents of Nacamaki, Nabuna, and Vatulele villages. Once completed, the road will provide a faster, more direct route, benefitting over 100 households.

The Fiji Roads Authority (FRA), through its ongoing rural and maritime road development programs, is making steady

progress on this shortcut road, which will significantly reduce travel time and costs for the three villages. Turaga-ni-Koro of Nacamaki Village, Venasio Seru, said the new access road is a major boost for the community, especially local farmers.

"This road will bring a lot of relief to farmers who will use it daily to reach their farms and transport goods to markets," he said.

"Previously, we had to take a much longer route, which meant extra travel time and higher costs when hiring carriers. Now, with this shortcut, it will be easier and more affordable to move

crops such as dalo, cassava, kava, and yams to market. We are truly thankful," he added.

Zone nurse Ateca Diveikulukulu, based at the Koro Health Center, highlighted the road's importance for healthcare.

"The new road has made travel faster, which is crucial during emergencies," she said.

"Patients can now reach hospitals or nursing stations on time, and villagers will have better access to the nursing stations without having to travel all the way to the Koro Health Center," she said.

The road is also expected to lower transport costs for villagers. The Turaga-ni-Koro of Vatulele Village, Tomasi Sukanaivalu, welcomed the change, saying it would benefit daily commuters, farmers, and students.

"Before, a trip could cost us around \$15.00. Now, with the shorter distance, we expect to pay closer to \$10.00, and that's great news for everyone," he said.

The FRA remains committed to providing essential road infrastructure to urban, rural, and maritime areas. This latest project on Koro Island is not just a road—it is a lifeline that will strengthen livelihoods, improve access to services, and bring lasting benefits to the people.

NEW ACCESS ROAD BRINGS OPPORTUNITY AND CONNECTIVITY TO DAKU VILLAGE, KADAVU

In the quiet, close-knit community of Daku Village on Kadavu Island, with a population of just 84 people, a new access road in progress will now open up new possibilities for the people of Daku.

The new road promises to ease daily travel, connect families with services, and empower the community with better access to markets.

The provincial administrator of Kadavu, Mr. Mosese Taria, shared his appreciation for the development, emphasizing the profound impact it will have.

"The construction of a community access road for Daku is not merely a transport upgrade—it is a catalyst for inclusive development," he said.

"It unlocks Daku's potential to thrive economically and significantly improves the quality of life for residents."

Mr. Taria explained that the access



road is more than a route—it's a bridge to essential services.

With one branch extending to the village frontage and another reaching the jetty, the finished road will connect Daku Village to schools, health centers, and government services. It also revitalizes

the rural economy by enhancing access to Vunisea and other key locations.

"For an isolated maritime community, which has long relied on boats for transportation, such infrastructure bridges the development gap and lays the foundation for sustainable rural progress," Mr. Taria added.

The new road will especially benefit local producers, enabling the easier transportation of root crops, yaqona (kava), seafood, and handicrafts. What was once a difficult and time-consuming journey will now be simpler and safer, helping Daku residents reach markets, grow their businesses, and increase their income.

The Fiji Roads Authority remains committed to building and supporting communities across the country by delivering reliable road infrastructure to both urban and rural areas.

NEW ROAD ON GAU ISLAND ENHANCES CONNECTIVITY & ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES



Travel on Gau Island is about to get easier and faster with the construction of a new six-kilometer road.

The new section of the Gau Circular Road, stretching from Lamiti Village to Yadua Village, will improve accessibility to Qarani and other villages on the western side of the island. In the past, residents of Qarani had to travel nearly an hour and a half to reach the airstrip. With the new road now, it will take only 30 minutes, making travel more efficient.

The benefits go beyond convenience for villagers. The pine industry will also make use of the new route, which provides direct access to the Qarani Jetty, creating smoother connections for transporting goods and services.

Out of the six kilometers planned, 3.8 kilometers have already been completed and are now in use, with further works progressing steadily. This development means faster access, better links to markets, easier transport of goods, and stronger connectivity for communities across Gau.

The Fiji Roads Authority remains committed to building infrastructure that connects people and supports better transportation systems across Fiji.

RAMAKRISHNA SARASWATI PRIMARY SCHOOL WELCOMES ROAD UPGRADE & NEW BUS SHELTER



Road upgrades and the installation of a new bus shelter have brought much-needed relief to the community and students of Ramakrishna Saraswati Primary School in Waidalice, Korovou.

Head Teacher Mr. Pravind Kumar expressed his appreciation to the Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) for the timely improvements.

“On behalf of the management, staff, and students of Ramkrishna Saraswati Primary School, I extend my gratitude to FRA for the fantastic work that has been done on our school driveway and bus shelter,” said Mr. Kumar.

“The transport providers from 11 different villages and settlements are able to pick up and drop off 216 students from the school, especially during rainy weather,” he said.

From rural access roads to major highways, FRA remains committed to delivering essential upgrades, rehabilitation works, and new infrastructure to support economic growth and strengthen community connectivity.

SCHOOLS ACKNOWLEDGE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS & UPGRADES

IMPROVED ROAD ACCESS BRINGS RELIEF TO QAWA COMMUNITY

Over 375 students and 30 households will benefit from the recent upgrade of Qawa School Road in the Northern Division. A total of 350 meters of Qawa School Road and 130 meters of Vunivau Temple Road have been chip-sealed. Mr. Rajnesh Swamy, Head Teacher of Qawa Primary School, expressed his gratitude for the completed works.

“We are thankful for the excellent road upgrade. It has brought great relief to our students, teachers, and nearby settlements who use this road daily,” he said.

“The previously deteriorated road, especially during rainy weather, made travel difficult. Now, students and other road users have a safer and smoother route, making travel faster and more convenient,” said Mr. Swamy.



“Parents can now drop their children right at the school gate, which sits in a hilly place. I believe bus services may also resume up to the school now that the road has been fixed,” he added.

NASAVUSAVU PUBLIC SCHOOL ROAD UPGRADE

A safer and more reliable road is now taking shape for the 380 students of Nasavusavu Public School, as grading and

resealing works are currently underway in Savusavu, Northern Division. With approximately 120 meters of road already completed, students and teachers have expressed relief, noting that the previous road was narrow, dilapidated, and difficult to use—especially during the rainy season. The school’s head teacher, Mr. Jimi Delaivoni, expressed his gratitude:

“We are so happy and thankful to the Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) for reaching out to rural schools. This is a great initiative, and we truly welcome the road upgrade. Our students can now walk safely to school, even during rainy weather, as the new sealed road has greatly improved accessibility and transportation,” he said.

“What was once a major challenge during wet weather has now become a safer and more accessible route for students, staff, and the wider community,” he added.

ROAD UPGRADE BRINGS SAFER TRAVEL FOR VATUKOULA PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS



A 430-meter section of Loloma Road in Vatukoula, Tavua, has been successfully sealed. In addition to the road sealing, two new bus bays have been constructed and sealed along the frontage of Vatukoula Primary School, with the new seal extending 10 meters into the school's main access. Head Teacher of Vatukoula Primary School, Ms. Ivamere Buli, expressed her gratitude for the road improvement works carried out by the FRA, especially the inclusion of two designated bus bays along the school frontage.

"I really appreciate the effort FRA has put into sealing the road and upgrading the school frontage. The addition of bus bays is thoughtful, especially when it comes to the safety of our 345 students," she said.

"Previously, it was quite risky for children when boarding and disembarking from buses, but now the area is much safer," said Ms. Buli.

Ms. Buli added that the improved road will not only benefit the school but also the wider community.

"We now have an excellent road, and everyone—students, parents, and the entire neighborhood—will benefit from this upgrade," she said.

The next phase of the project, which includes further pavement work, is currently in progress.

VUNIMANUCA PRIMARY SCHOOL WELCOMES ROAD UPGRADES FOR SAFER TRAVEL



Students and teachers of Vunimanuca Primary School in Seaqaqa, Northern Division, are grateful for the newly sealed Kawakawavesi Road and school frontage, which will make daily travel safer and easier. More than 70 students will directly benefit from the road upgrade, which was once difficult to use. Head Teacher Mr. Avilash Krishna expressed his appreciation, saying the improvements are a great relief for the school community.

"I am grateful for the work being done by FRA. In the past, a major challenge for students was the heavy dust during the dry and cane-cutting seasons," he said.

"This often led to children falling sick, but the newly sealed road will now bring much-needed relief for both students and teachers."

Mr. Krishna also highlighted that during rainy periods, students used to struggle through muddy roads to reach school.

"With the new sealing and proper culverts installed for drainage, this problem has been solved, and we are truly thankful," he added.

The Fiji Roads Authority remains committed to carrying out essential road upgrades to improve transportation and ensure safer, more reliable access for communities. A total of 364 meters of sealing has been completed along Kawakawavesi Road, including the frontage of Vunimanuca Primary School.

NADUNA ROAD UPGRADE IMPROVES ACCESS TO SCHOOLS & COMMUNITY



As part of the Rip and Remake program, sealing works are currently progressing along Naduna Road in Waiqele, Northern Division, marking a significant upgrade for the area. These improvements will provide safer and smoother access for residents, support businesses in the community, and benefit the upcoming Waiqele Nursing Station.



In addition, sealing works are extending off Naduna Road, with 350 meters of new road surface leading to Waiqele Primary School and Waiqele College. This upgrade will provide a safer and more convenient route for students, parents, and teachers. The new sealing will provide a more durable and resilient road surface for daily commuters and the wider community.

ELLINGTON WHARF REPAIR WORKS REACH 54% COMPLETION



Progress on the Ellington Wharf repairs continues steadily, with the project now 54% complete. All essential piling works have been successfully completed, laying a strong foundation for the subsequent stages.

As of now, piling works are 100% complete, while precast slab installation is at 70%. The team is currently focused on this critical phase, as it plays a key role in forming the new wharf structure. One of the

main challenges to achieving completion so far has been unfavorable site conditions for pile installation. The remaining phases of the project include backfilling works, concrete deck slab construction, and remaining ancillary works. The final stage will involve the installation and construction of the wharf deck, which will complete the repairs and restore the wharf to full operational capacity.

The Rip & Remake program on Loloma Road in Vatukoula, Tavua, is progressing well, with an additional 310 meters sealed and 53.85% of the project complete.

This project aims to enhance road access to the Vatukoula Gold Mine, a vital component of the local economy, by creating a more reliable transport route for the mine's operations and workforce. This will also improve access to nearby local communities and schools.

REHABILITATION WORKS PROGRESS ON NAYARABALE ROAD, LINKING 10 VILLAGES



Rehabilitation works are progressing well along Nayarabale Road, which links Wainikoro Road to Seavaci Road/Korotasere and the Natewa West Coast Road.

Out of the total 19 kilometers of planned works, 2 kilometers have already been completed, and drainage works along the entire route have been successfully carried out.

Work is now ongoing on unsealed road rehabilitation and culvert replacements, aimed at improving road safety and ensuring long-term durability.

This major upgrade will bring lasting benefits to the 10 villages along the route—Naqera, Lovoniqai, Namaqala, Dokoisuva, Tabia, Nayarabale, Naqara, Nayaqalevu, Baleyaganiga, and Seavaci—by improving connectivity, transport, and access to essential services.

CALL FOR PROPER WASTE DISPOSAL



The Fiji Roads Authority is concerned over the ongoing issue of improper waste disposal, which continues to obstruct drains and culverts across the country. As part of its routine maintenance, FRA teams regularly work to keep these drainage

systems clear. Last month, the FRA team in Nausori carried out hydro jetting works to clear the drains and culverts and found large amount of household waste, including flip-flops and plastic bottles.

FRA urges the public to be more considerate by disposing of rubbish properly, adopting better waste disposal habits, and taking pride in keeping their communities clean to help prevent further blocked drains and floods during heavy rain. Maintaining clear drains is crucial for preventing flooding, protecting road infrastructure, and ensuring the safety of all road users. Working together is key to maintaining clean and functional roads and drains across Fiji.

ENHANCED ROAD DURABILITY FOR ILIKINI COMMUNITY



The chip sealing works on Ilikini Road in Rakiraki, Ra, have been successfully completed. This is part of FRA's Rip and Remake program. This initiative involved applying a two-coat seal across a 465-meter stretch of the road, which caters to residential homes in the area. The dual-layer application of bituminous seal will substantially enhance the road's durability and longevity, offering a smoother and safer travel experience for all commuters.

NADARIVATU ROAD IN TAVUA UNDERGOES MAJOR UPGRADE



As part of ongoing maintenance and road upgrading initiatives, Nadarivatu Road in Tavua is undergoing significant upgrade aimed at improving road quality and safety for commuters. Asphalt Concrete (AC) overlay works have already been carried out, providing a smoother and more durable surface for motorists. In addition, pavement and concrete nib works are also being carried out. Upon completion, the upgraded road will enhance connectivity and safer travel for the surrounding communities.

SEALED NAVIDAMU ROAD BRINGS RELIEF TO COMMUNITY



A 370-meter section of Navidamu Road in Macuata Province, Northern Division, and a 30-meter section of Vunitarawau Road have undergone double-coat chip-sealing, now providing improved road access for villagers and Solove Primary School. The upgraded surface enhances connectivity for the community, reduces dust pollution, and offers safer, more reliable travel for school students and residents.

NEW BUS SHELTERS SUPPORT SAFER AND MORE CONVENIENT TRAVEL



Five newly completed bus shelters across the Central Eastern Division are now providing safer and more convenient waiting areas for daily commuters and school students. The newly completed bus shelters are as follows:

- Verata Ucunivanua (Tailevu) (located next to Vunibokoi District School).
- Naitutu Sote, Waidalice (Tailevu), (located next to Waidalice Primary School).

- Toga Road (Rewa) (located next to Toga District School).

- Vuci Road (Nausori) (located near Sila Central College).

- Nadali Bypass Road (Nausori) (located along Nadali Bypass Road).

The Fiji Roads Authority remains committed to delivering infrastructure that meets the increasing needs of our communities.

These newly constructed bus shelters in growing residential areas are now providing essential support for the increasing number of residents, school students, and daily commuters.

As more such projects are rolled out across divisions, FRA urges the public to take civic pride in these assets by keeping them clean and free from graffiti or vandalism.

FRA CONDUCTS 2.5 – DAY WORKSHOP ON BUDGET, INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICE DELIVERY REFORMS



On July 12th, the Fiji Roads Authority successfully concluded a pivotal 2.5-day workshop that brought together senior staff members from across the three divisions to address key issues ahead of the 2025/26 fiscal year.

Held at the Pasifika Communities University, the workshop served as a platform for transparent dialogue, collaborative planning, and detailed updates on FRA's strategies for improving national roading services.

The event opened with a comprehensive review of the 2025/26 budget, alongside analyses of spending trends from the 2023/24 and 2024/25 periods. FRA leadership highlighted critical financial

lessons learned and encouraged open discussion around areas for improvement and resource reallocation.

FRA also presented updates on its routine and periodic maintenance work plans, budget allocation for roads, bridges, and jetties renewals, and new capital programmes including community resilience, tourism, and congestion.

These sessions explored opportunities for enhancing the return on investment through better project planning and execution and ensuring every dollar spent delivers value to Fijian road users. In addressing capital project funding, FRA tackled concerns around

the underutilization of local budgets in recent years. The team outlined specific challenges, such as procurement delays, capacity gaps, and unfavorable weather conditions, while proposing strategies to close execution gaps and improve fiscal performance going forward.

Key updates were also shared on the Transport Infrastructure Investment Sector Project (TIISP) and other donor-funded projects.

Highlights included progress on major infrastructure such as the Tamavua I Wai Bridge, Vunikura, and Korolevu upgrades—critical initiatives that align with national priorities and public service improvements.

REDEFINING ROADS AND ROLES WOMEN IN INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEERING

Every year on June 23rd, the world celebrates **International Women in Engineering Day (INWED)**—a day dedicated to honoring the achievements & contributions of women in the engineering field. This year’s global theme, **#TogetherWeEngineer**, highlights the power of collaboration in breaking down barriers & building a more inclusive & innovative future.

In marking this occasion, the Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) recognizes the importance of inclusivity & proudly reaffirms its commitment to equal opportunity for all. In a traditionally male-dominated industry like engineering, the presence & success of women professionals are not only empowering—they’re essential to creating more balanced & effective teams. Empowering women in engineering is more than a matter of fairness—their inclusion brings diverse perspectives to problem-solving, strengthens decision-making, & ensures infrastructure projects are designed with broader community needs in mind.

This year, FRA is proud to celebrate **six outstanding female civil engineers** working across the country. These women are contributing directly to key road infrastructure projects, from supervising site works & coordinating with contractors to managing road maintenance & rehabilitation programs. Each of these engineers brings a unique set of skills. Their work demonstrates that women can not only succeed in engineering—they can lead, innovate, & make a lasting impact. On this International Women in Engineering Day, the Fiji Roads Authority proudly celebrates the women who are helping to drive Fiji forward—reminding us that when we work together, we engineer a better future. - #TogetherWeEngineer.



Alitia Temo – Acting Works Manager Delivery – Central

Ms. Temo joined FRA in July 2017 shortly after graduating with a Degree in Civil Engineering programme at the Fiji National University.

“Over the past eight years at FRA, I progressed from the Graduate Engineer Programme to Works Inspector for over four years, & I have been acting as Works Manager for the past three years. In this role, I manage maintenance projects across Rewa, Naitasiri, & Tailevu. I’ve had the privilege of contributing to both capital & maintenance projects, working alongside experts in various fields. Despite the challenges of a male-dominated field, it has been a fulfilling journey, knowing our work helps connect & improve lives in both urban & rural communities. Promoting inclusivity & equal opportunities starts within organizations by providing the necessary training & support for career growth.”



Ateca Tamani - Subdivision Planning Assistant & Acting Subdivision Asset Manager - Central

Working at FRA for the past 8 years, Ms. Tamani has contributed positively to many projects.

“Having worked in Fiji’s infrastructure & civil sector for over two decades, including eight years at FRA, I have found it to be a journey of resilience, growth, & purpose. Over the years, I have progressed from technical roles to leadership positions, contributing to improved road networks & safety. For women entering this field, remember that your professionalism, consistency, & pride in your work are what truly matter. Never doubt your ability to contribute.”



Kesaia Divalu Lewagasau - Works Inspector - Delivery Central

For Ms. Lewagasau, working for FRA for 5 years has been rewarding but also a challenging experience.

“Over the course of my career, I have often been the only woman in male-dominated engineering environments. With the support of my colleagues, I was able to overcome challenges as a young engineer, which led to rewarding outcomes. Navigating this field, I have faced challenges like gender-based stereotypes & a lack of female mentors. However, overcoming these obstacles has promoted personal growth & resilience, & has also contributed to a fulfilling career supported by a strong professional network. Achieving professional goals requires advocating for yourself, taking initiative, & actively seeking support. In a male-dominated workplace, success demands a balance of flexibility & confidence while staying true to your values.”



Ms. Shajal Pritisha Chand - Works Inspector - West

Ms. Chand joined FRA in 2018 as a Civil Engineering Attaché.

“With seven years of experience in engineering, I have gained valuable knowledge & skills through my involvement in various projects, including footpath construction, road upgrades, & road maintenance. My journey in this field has been both challenging & rewarding, cultivating my resilience, leadership, & teamwork abilities. As a woman in engineering, I contribute a unique perspective, combining technical expertise with empathy & attention to detail. This path has been deeply rewarding & has helped me grow both personally & professionally. For other women considering a career in engineering, my advice is to go for it. Trust yourself. It is a challenging yet deeply rewarding path that will help you build confidence & grow into the best version of yourself.”



Ms. Ulamila Wati Reva Rokocakau - Traffic and Road Safety Engineer

Ms. Rokocakau joined FRA in June 2025 after working & completing her Master’s Degree by Structural Engineering Research in NZ.

“Working at FRA has been a rewarding experience, allowing me to contribute meaningfully to the country’s development by ensuring safe & accessible roads. To women aspiring to enter this field, I advise staying focused on your goals. With discipline, patience, & determination, you can overcome initial challenges. I believe inclusivity & equal opportunities must align with the necessary professional qualifications & standards of the industry. I want to acknowledge those who came before us, whose perseverance created opportunities for our generation. It is now our responsibility to continue their legacy, ensuring our work creates opportunities for future generations & contributes to the ongoing development of our country.”



Ms. Serona Fremlin – Road Asset Management Engineer

Ms. Fremlin joined FRA in 2018 & she plays a key role in ensuring the efficient delivery of a comprehensive Road Asset Management Service that aligns with the policies of the Government of Fiji, FRA, & its funding partners.

“Being part of the FRA engineering field for over seven years has been incredibly rewarding. I have had the privilege of learning from talented individuals. For women considering this career path, I believe the hardest part is taking the first step, but you will never know your true potential unless you try.”