

UPGRADED SUVA BUS STAND A WELCOME RELIEF FOR COMMUTERS



The Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) has successfully completed the rehabilitation works at the Suva Bus Stand, marking a major milestone in improving one of the country's busiest and most essential public transport hubs.

The completed project has significantly enhanced the overall functionality, safety, and durability of the bus stand, which serves thousands of commuters. As a central point for public transportation, the Suva Bus Stand's upgrade ensures a more comfortable, accessible, and resilient environment for passengers, transport operators, and the general public.

Daily commuter Mr. Sairusi Serli of Quaia, Lami, expressed his satisfaction with the completed upgrades at the Suva Bus Stand, noting the much-needed improvements.

"It's really good to see the changes made to the Suva Bus Stand. These improvements were long overdue," he said. "I am very happy with the new tar-seal works and the clearly marked lanes. As someone who uses the bus every day, I think it is safer, more organized, and definitely a better experience for all of us who commute daily," he added.

The rehabilitation works included comprehensive infrastructure upgrades such as drainage improvements, culvert and gully pit installations, dish channel and manhole cover replacements, pavement strengthening by cement stabilization, and new asphalt concrete surfacing. These improvements are designed to prevent flooding, improve surface durability, and promote efficient traffic flow within the bus stand. Speaking with the FRA, bus driver Mr. Nilesh Prasad shared his

appreciation for the upgraded Suva Bus Stand and the quality of work completed.

"I'm extremely happy with the improvements. As a driver, the previous road conditions were quite challenging—especially during the rainy season. The potholes made driving difficult and even caused damage to the bus at times," he said. "The new surface has made a huge difference, and the clearly marked bays have really helped with traffic flow. It's now much easier for us drivers to know exactly where to wait when the bays are full, which helps reduce delays," he added.

The FRA extends its appreciation to the public for their patience and cooperation during the construction period and encourages continued civic pride in maintaining the upgraded facility.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK



Ms. Tima Waqabaca

Daily Commuter
Vunidawa,
Naitasiri

"The new improved bus stand is a welcome sight for us bus users. I appreciate the work done to give us a safe and more accessible bus stand. I urge the public to take care of the new facility and also to dispose of rubbish wisely. We can see people throwing rubbish everywhere, and we need to stop this and appreciate the new bus stand."



Ms. Losevati Druguta

Year 12 Student

"The look of the bus stand is very good, and the zebra crossings make it safer to use. Previously, during the rainy season, the wastage from the catch pits would overflow—the new drains and catch pits are a relief now. Also, to make a difference as good citizens, we need to dispose of rubbish wisely to avoid blocked drains."



Mr. Ashneel Chand

Tacirua Transport
Checker

"I have been working as a bus checker for the past three years, and I truly welcome the improvements made to the Suva Bus Stand. The clear lane markings are very helpful for drivers and make movement around the area safer and more organized for daily users. The installation of proper lighting has also made a big difference at night—it helps reduce the risk of pickpocketing and makes the space feel much safer overall."

MAJOR ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS ON LAKEBA ISLAND



Major road rehabilitation and maintenance works are currently in progress on Lakeba Island, aiming to improve transportation links and enhance safety for over 1500 people. The project covers various infrastructure improvements, including road grading and gravelling, culvert and drainage installations, concrete pavement repairs, coastal protection works, restoration of the jetty causeway, and foot crossing upgrades. These works are essential in supporting the island's transportation network, which is critical for daily commuting, access to services, economic activities, and emergency response.

The road works focus on several key routes—the Lakeba Circular Road, the Lakeba Airstrip Road, access roads leading to various villages such as Tubou, Nasaqalau, Vakano, Yadrana, Nukunuku, Waitabu, and Waciwaci; Levuka; and institutional roads that connect important public services such as hospitals, schools, government stations, and utilities. The Mata-ni-Tikina of Lakeba Island, Mr. Salesi Kinikinilau, expressed his gratitude to the Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) for the ongoing roadworks on the island and the positive impact they are already having on the community.

"We are very fortunate that FRA responded to our request. Just a few months ago, the road conditions were poor, but we've seen a significant improvement," he said.

One of the critical components of the project is the reinstatement of the jetty causeway. This structure plays a vital role in enabling boats to safely dock and offload goods and passengers. The Provincial Administrator for the Lau Group, Mr. Iokobo Waqandrola, said Lakeba Island is one of the major centers for the Lau Group and expressed gratitude for the ongoing roadworks and the rehabilitation of the jetty causeway.

Its restoration will not only enhance the efficiency of marine transport but also support economic activity such as trade, which is vital for the island's growth," he said. "I compliment the good work carried out by FRA and look forward to the new road improvements once completed," he added.

These ongoing developments highlight the importance of continued investment in rural infrastructure and demonstrate a strong commitment to the well-being and sustainable development of outer island communities by FRA. A total of 30 kilometers of road are scheduled for rehabilitation, with the project expected to be completed by the end of June this year, weather permitting.



Mr. Salesi Kinikinilau

Mata-ni-Tikina of
Lakeba Island

"We are very fortunate that FRA responded to our request. Just a few months ago, the road conditions were poor, but we've seen a significant improvement."

It makes travel easier when roads are good. With three primary schools, three kindergartens, and one secondary school on the island, it's a great relief, especially for our students, who can now be more safely and easily transported by the RSL."

IMPROVED ROAD BRINGS RELIEF FOR KORONIVIA RESIDENTS

Good roads are more than just a means of transportation — they connect communities, improve access to essential services, boost economic activity, and enhance quality of life. A major milestone for the Koronivia community, as the road leading through the area to the end of Nakaikogo Primary School is being tar sealed for the very first time. After years of navigating dusty tracks and muddy conditions, residents are finally seeing long-awaited progress that promises safer, smoother, and more reliable access for vehicles, pedestrians, and public services.

The people of the community have responded positively, expressing their appreciation and support for the long-awaited road improvement. Children are among the greatest beneficiaries of the new road. Nakaikogo Primary School, located within the community, is attended by many local students, and parents have expressed deep gratitude that the journey to school will now be safer and more accessible for their children.

Litiana Tiko, a resident of the community for the past six years and a mother of one, shared her appreciation for the much-needed road upgrade, noting the significant difference it will make compared to previous years.

"I am truly grateful that FRA is finally improving this road. In the past, heavy rain would cause so many issues. There were times we couldn't even send our children to school because of the poor road conditions. Now, we're relieved and happy — this development will bring real change to the community, especially for the school," she said.

For farmers, the improved road access means they can now transport

their produce with fewer delays and better access. Waisea Tava, a farm assistant who works alongside other laborers in the area, says the new roadworks are a welcome improvement for everyone, especially farmers.

"We use large trucks to transport manure for the farm and vegetables, and the road upgrades have made things much easier for us," he said. "It's good for the community — now buyers can reach us more easily, and the whole process is much more convenient," he added.

The Fiji Roads Authority acknowledges the vital role that a well-maintained road network plays in driving economic growth and improving access to essential services. The road works are progressing well, with 660 meters of sealing completed on old seal and 700 meters of shoulder widening works successfully carried out. In total, 2.4 kilometers of road in Koronivia are scheduled to be rehabilitated as part of this project. The tar sealing and road improvement works are expected to be completed by early July, bringing benefits to residents and daily commuters.



Mr. Satya Deo

Advisory Counselor

"I thank the Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) for commencing the long-awaited works in Koronivia. The new road will bring great relief to the people of Koronivia, especially the students of Nakaikogo Primary School, their daily walk to school will now be much easier. Koronivia is a rapidly developing area, we have a restaurant, supermarket, service station, shops, and a large number of farmers. Improved infrastructure will support this growth and make everyday life better for everyone."