

PRESS RELEASE

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Arrival of Tower Crane caps off month of milestones at Roma Hospital Redevelopment

A new addition is set to grace the Roma skyline with the arrival of a 33-metre-high tower crane at the Roma Hospital Redevelopment site today.

With a jib length of 60 metres and lifting capacity of up to seven tonnes, the tower crane will take around eight hours to erect and be in place for the next five months.

Watpac Project Manager, Brett Rosenthal, said the arrival of the tower crane reflected the steady progress being made on site, and follows several major milestones achieved in the past month, including the first slab pour and the completion of the foundation piling.

“Work is progressing well and the arrival of the tower crane on site marks a significant milestone in the Roma Hospital Redevelopment,” Mr Rosenthal said.

“With bulk earthworks completed in December our focus has been on the completion of piling with the last of the 646 bored piles installed last week.”

With the tower crane now onsite, Mr Rosenthal said work on the new hospital will continue to ramp up.

“Structural concrete works are well underway and will continue until May 2019, while external concrete works will be undertaken until November 2019,” he said.

“The team has done a remarkable job since we commenced on site and it’s been great to have a number of local subcontractors play a part in this progress to date.”

With local civil contractor Suffcon and concrete supply and pumping contractor Grulke having both worked on the project since October, Mr Rosenthal said the contribution of both businesses is a strong example of local skills and capabilities.

“The opportunity to engage local businesses in the delivery of the new hospital has been a priority for Watpac and it’s been great to have Suffcon and Grulke be a part of this construction journey.”

South West Hospital and Health Service Chief Executive Linda Patat said the arrival of the crane was an exciting moment for both health service staff and locals.

“The state-of-the-art new Roma Hospital is set to provide high quality, contemporary healthcare the entire South West can rely on and the arrival of the crane signifies the construction work is really ramping up,” Ms Patat said.

“We are pleased that the build is progressing well and look forward to continuing to work closely with Watpac and our key stakeholders to deliver this vital project to the community.”

The new three level Roma Hospital building, which is being constructed adjacent to the existing hospital, has a gross floor area of 12,550 and is being built specifically to meet the needs of the region. Once completed the hospital will provide 22 beds and two birth suites, with departments including emergency, allied health, medical imaging, inpatient wards, pathology, medical records and central sterilising.

Additional facilities to be delivered include theatres, a mortuary, reception, administration areas, staff lounge, training rooms, laundry, kitchen, a cafe and plant rooms. Two new car parks are also included as part of the project which will provide over 220 free parking spaces for hospital visitors.

The redevelopment is part of the Queensland Government’s \$180 million Enhancing Regional Hospitals program and will create more than 340 direct and indirect jobs throughout the construction process, upskilling local workers and engaging with local industry.

The project will be completed in 2020.

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For further information: Media – Amanda Campbell, Corporate Affairs Manager on 07 3251 6453.

Note to editors: Watpac is a leading national construction group with operations in all mainland States and Territories. We have been listed on the Australian Securities Exchange since 1985 and have offices in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth, Townsville and Port Macquarie. More information is available at www.watpac.com.au.