



## PRESS RELEASE

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# Tower crane dismantled at Roma Hospital

The Roma Hospital Redevelopment reached an important milestone over the weekend with the dismantling of the 33m-high tower crane.

The crane, which has graced the Roma skyline since January, was dismantled over the course of several hours on Saturday, closing out what has been an important part of the construction program.

Watpac Project Manager, Brett Rosenthal, said the dismantling of the crane signified the start of the next phase of construction.

"Knight Saber, as our crane has been fondly called, has played an important role in getting us to this exciting point of the project," Mr Rosenthal said

"The roof for the hospital and services building are now complete, and delivery and installation of major plant and machinery, such as chillers and heat pumps, have been craned into the building.

"The structural steel is also largely complete, and the scaffold has progressively been removed so residents will now be able to see large portions of the façade, which shows how the building has taken shape."

With focus now on internal works, Mr Rosenthal said there was still plenty to be done over the coming months.

"Internal works continue, with painting and fit-out proceeding steadily and permanent power to be connected by the end of September," he said.

"Floor finishes have already begun and are progressing well, with external works such as landscaping, footpaths and roadworks to commence shortly."

South West Hospital and Health Service Chief Executive Linda Patat said with each milestone achieved, the new Roma Hospital was progressing ever closer to completion.

"The overall build is expected to be finished by mid-2020 but with the essential external structure of the building now largely complete, Roma residents can see the shape of their new hospital," she said.

"It is a major new addition to the overall Roma skyline as well as continuing to be a significant driving force in boosting the local economy."

Ms Patat said while the Knight Saber tower crane might be leaving the city, its distinctive flag would be remaining in Roma and would be presented later to St John's Roma student Sydney Bentley who had won the locally run competition to give the crane its name.

"I think it's entirely appropriate for this little piece of Roma history to remain here and with the person who helped make the history," she said.



Once completed the new three-level Roma Hospital, which is being constructed adjacent to the existing 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.

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

**Note to editors:** Watpac, a wholly-owned subsidiary of BESIX, is a leading national construction and marine and civil contracting group with operations in all mainland States and Territories. More information is available at [www.watpac.com.au](http://www.watpac.com.au).