MEDIA RELEASE

29 January 2016

CONTRACT AWARDED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF NEW BRIDGE AT NELLIGEN

Member for Bega Andrew Constance has announced planning for a new Kings Highway bridge across the Clyde River at Nelligen is progressing with a contract awarded to GHD Pty Ltd to carry out the environmental assessment for the project.

Mr Constance said the NSW Government allocated $600,000 in 2015/16 to continue planning for a new bridge, after a routine inspection identified the supporting concrete pillars under the existing bridge had deteriorated.

“A preferred location for a new bridge was identified in September last year, with a new bridge to be located north of the existing bridge.

“As part of the environmental assessment, GHD Pty Ltd will carry out a number of specialist studies within the project area which will include a biodiversity survey, noise survey and modelling, flood study and a visual impact and landscape assessment.

“Studies, including Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage investigations, are also expected to start next month with the contract for this component of work being awarded to Umwelt Australia Pty Ltd.

“Roads and Maritime Services has also started developing concept designs for a new bridge and improved approaches to the north of the existing crossing,” Mr Constance said.

“It is anticipated the concept designs and environmental assessment will be displayed for community comment in mid-2016.”

Mr Constance said that improvements to approaches would address safety issues to the east where there have been two fatal crashes in the past five years.

“As part of the bridge project, the highway approaches would be widened and bends straightened to meet an 80km/h design standard.

“The new bridge would include 3.5 metre wide lanes with 2.5 metre wide shoulders and improved safety for pedestrians by providing a footpath separated from traffic with barriers.

“It is proposed to remove the current bridge after the new bridge is completed.”

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