Project update - Long Jetty traffic planning and efficiency review

The NSW Government announced $2 million in 2014/15 to plan for improvements to traffic flow and ease congestion on the Central Coast Highway at Long Jetty.

Roads and Maritime Services has completed a traffic study along The Entrance Road between Wyong Road and Oakland Avenue at Long Jetty.

The investigation considered a range of issues including crash history, traffic volumes, traffic growth and travel speeds. Traffic modelling was carried out to consider the impact, cost and feasibility of potential upgrade options.

The traffic study identified that:

• Sections of the Central Coast Highway through Long Jetty experience congestion during peak times
• Two travel lanes in each direction will have significant impacts to local amenity, with sections of the road in the vicinity of Thompson Street not wide enough to accommodate two travel lanes
• Smaller scale and targeted improvements along the route will provide more effective outcomes and benefits to motorists
• Modelling shows that providing two travel lanes where space permits will only provide marginal travel time benefits compared to less disruptive options
• Improvements for travel times as part of the upgrade were found to be most significant at the Tuggerah Parade intersection for northbound vehicles and Swadling Street for southbound vehicles.

As a result of the investigations, several improvements to The Entrance Road were identified as providing benefits to traffic efficiency as well as increased pedestrian safety.

The proposed improvements are shown on the enclosed map and include:

• Removing the right turn into Tuggerah Parade and changing the left turn lane to include a through traffic option
• Installing two lanes southbound at Swadling Street, continuing through to Tuggerah Parade. This would include reducing on-street parking between Swadling Street and
Oaks Avenue and implementing peak hour parking restrictions between Oaks Avenue and Tuggerah Parade

- Reducing the crossing distance at the pedestrian traffic lights between Stella Street and Elsiemer Street and upgrading the signals to provide flashing lights towards the end of the pedestrian crossing phase
- Reducing the crossing distance at the pedestrian traffic lights between Archbold Road and Anzac Road and upgrading the signals to provide flashing lights towards the end of the pedestrian crossing phase.
- Installing a traffic monitoring camera to ease large volumes of northbound traffic moving through the Thompson Street traffic lights
- Investigating the removal of on-street parking on short sections of the road to increase capacity during peak times.

The proposed road improvements focus on addressing the key sources of traffic delay, in particular providing benefits for motorists during peak periods at pinch points with lower travel speeds. Travel times in non-peak periods are unlikely to change significantly, however motorists will benefit from reduced traffic light phasing times at Tuggerah Parade and at the pedestrian crossings.

Next steps
The proposal will progress to the detailed design stage, expected to be completed in early to mid 2017. The timing for construction is dependent on funding.

Contact
If you wish to provide comments on the proposed upgrades, or have any questions, please call our Project Manager Karl Wetzler on 02 4924 0352 or email longjetty@rms.nsw.gov.au.

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Between Anzac Road and Archbold Road
Mid block traffic signals reduce the crossing distance and allow flashing yellow lights at the end of the crossing phase.

Thompson Street
Install congestion camera to monitor and manage traffic flow.

Between Elsiemer Street and Stella Street
Mid block traffic signals reduce the crossing distance and allow flashing yellow lights at the end of the crossing phase.

Swadling Street
Provide two southbound through lanes either side of traffic signals.

Oaks Avenue to Tuggerah Parade
Extend two lane carriageway from Tuggerah Parade up to Oaks Avenue in the southbound direction during peak hours.

Tuggerah Parade
Provide two northbound through lanes, construct a new left turn lane, and remove right turn into Tuggerah Parade.