WORK STARTS ON $1.9 MILLION PAINT MAKEOVER OF GOSTWYCK BRIDGE

George Souris, M.P., Member for Upper Hunter, has announced Roads and Maritime Services is continuing major maintenance work on Gostwyck Bridge on Dungog Road near Martins Creek with the $1.9 million painting makeover set to start.

Mr. Souris said work to remove old paint and apply a new coat starts on Monday 16 February and will be carried out between 7am and 5pm on weekdays and 8am and 5pm on Saturdays, weather permitting.

“Work involves removing the existing paint using a grit blasting process, repainting the bridge and other general improvements,” Mr. Souris said.

“There may be some noise associated with the grit blasting activities however work will be enclosed to minimise the effect on the local community including stopping noisy work by 1pm on Saturdays.

“Earlier maintenance work completed on Gostwyck Bridge included upgrades to timber approach spans and strengthening the steel spans.

“The overhaul of Gostwyck Bridge is aimed at reducing future maintenance activities, reducing bridge closures and supporting the development of the Dungog area,” Mr. Souris said.

“During painting work the bridge width will be reduced to 3.2 metres for scaffolding and the paint containment area.

“Pedestrian access will be unavailable while the scaffolding is in place with detours to be in place marked with signage.

“Painting work is expected to be completed by mid this year, weather permitting, after which minor maintenance will continue without any planned disruption to traffic.

“To ensure the safety of workers, motorists and other road users, a temporary 40km/h speed limit will be in place during work and traffic control and signs or temporary traffic lights will be in place on approach to the bridge.

“Roads and Maritime thanks the community for their patience while this essential bridge improvement work is carried out.

“For the latest traffic information, visit www.livetraffic.com, download Live Traffic App or call the Transport Management Centre on 132 701,” Mr. Souris concluded.

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