PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADE
Ourimbah Street to Parsons Road, Lisarow
Community and Stakeholder Consultation Report
OCTOBER 2014
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1. Background

Since 2009 Roads and Maritime has carried out extensive investigations and community consultation in order to finalise a preferred route for the upgrade of the Pacific Highway between Narara and Lisarow.

The preferred route along the existing Pacific Highway was approved by the NSW Minister for Roads and Freight in February 2013.

The preferred option for the section of highway between Ourimbah Street and Parsons Road at Lisarow was displayed for community comment in November and December 2013. This report outlines the consultation activities carried out during the public display period and summarises the feedback received.

Roads and Maritime is also in the final stages of planning a future upgrade for the section of Pacific Highway and Manns Road between Parsons Road at Lisarow and Narara Creek Road at Narara. Further details about this project are available at rms.nsw.gov.au.

2. The proposal

The preferred option proposes to widen the Pacific Highway to provide two lanes in each direction to improve traffic flow and safety.

The primary objectives of the proposal are to:

- Improve traffic flow and travel times for motorists
- Reduce crash rates and severity of crashes
- Improved pedestrian and cycle network
- Minimise the project’s impact on the environment by reducing the footprint as far as practical in areas of environmental concern.

The key features of the preferred option include:

- Two lanes in each direction on the Pacific Highway
- A new bridge over the rail line replacing the existing bridge near the Railway Crescent intersection
- Traffic lights at the Macdonalds and Chamberlain Roads intersections
- Improved pedestrian and cycle paths along and across the highway
- Improved access to parking at Lisarow Railway Station.
3. Consultation approach

3.1 Purpose of consultation
Roads and Maritime carried out consultation in November and December 2013. The purpose of the consultation activities was to update local residents, businesses, road users and the community on the preferred option for the upgrade and to provide the community and stakeholders with the opportunity to provide feedback.

The consultation objectives were to:

- Inform the community and stakeholders of the proposal and possible impacts
- Seek feedback on the proposal and issues of concern from the community and stakeholders for consideration by Roads and Maritime in developing the concept design and review of environmental factors
- Build a database of interested and concerned community members who Roads and Maritime can continue to engage with during the proposal’s development.

3.2 Community and stakeholder identification
A number of stakeholders were identified to be engaged as part of the consultation process. These stakeholders included:

- **Directly affected stakeholders** including nearby property owners, residents, businesses and those directly affected by the upgrade
- **Community members and groups** including road users, cyclists, pedestrians and users of local facilities and services within the wider Central Coast area
- **Local services and facilities** including transport groups and companies
- **Indigenous groups** including the Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council
- **Emergency services**
- **Utility providers**
- **Government agencies and representatives** including Gosford Shire Council and elected representatives.

3.3 Consultation activities
Community members were encouraged to provide feedback, leave comments and make submissions in person, by mail, email or phone contact with the project team.

The community could contact Roads and Maritime and leave comments and submissions by:

- **In person:** At the community information session
- **Email:** Central.Coast.Office@rms.nsw.gov.au
- **Telephone:** 4379 7001
- **Mail:** Roads and Maritime Services Central Coast Office
  PO Box 766
  Woy Woy NSW 2256

The communication and consultation activities carried out are outlined in Table 1.
Table 1 Summary of consultation activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consultation activity</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Information session</td>
<td>An information session was held on 21 November 2013 between 12 noon and 7pm at the Gosford/Narara Neighbourhood Centre. Community members were invited to view the plans and discuss the proposal with the project team.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community update</td>
<td>A community update was delivered to about 5,700 properties including residences and businesses in the Lisarow area. A copy of the update is provided at Appendix A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Static displays</td>
<td>The proposal was displayed with copies of the community update at:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Service NSW Centre at Gosford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Roads and Maritime Motor Registry at Erina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Road and Maritime Central Coast Office at Woy Woy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Offices of the Members for Gosford and The Entrance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Roads and Maritime website rms.nsw.gov.au.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newspaper advertising</td>
<td>Advertising was placed in the Central Coast Express Advocate on 6 November 2013. A copy of the advertisement is available at Appendix B.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media activities</td>
<td>A media release announcing the public display and inviting comments from the community was issued on 6 November 2013. A copy of the media release is available at Appendix C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doorknocking, stakeholder briefings and meetings</td>
<td>Doorknocking was carried out with directly affected property owners and businesses on 13 November 2013. Briefings were also carried out with Gosford Shire Council and the Members for Wyong and The Entrance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Issues summary

The preferred option was on public display between 6 November and 6 December 2013. During the public display Roads and Maritime received 46 submissions from stakeholders and community members including:

- 19 written submissions
- 9 telephone calls
- 18 discussions at the information session and carrying out doorknocking activities.

A total of 19 issues were raised in the submissions received. Some submissions contained multiple comments and raised multiple issued.

It is important to note Roads and Maritime follows issues based decision making. This means that although preferences on options are noted, Roads and Maritime examines the issues raised throughout the consultation period using the fact based assessment process to assist in identifying a preferred option.

4.1 Key issues

The most commonly raised issues included:

- Intersection treatments (33%)
- Safety (17%)
- Cyclist and pedestrian facilities (9%)
- Property adjustments, acquisition and values (8%)
- Construction impacts on traffic and access (6%).

Most of the responses received showed general appreciation for the need for the project and supported the proposal. The feedback received has informed the concept design and specialist studies being completed as part of the review of environmental factors.

Details of the comments received are provided in Figure 1 and Table 2.
The following graph illustrates the range of comments and issues received on the proposal.

![Graph showing distribution of comments by key issue]

### Table 2 Key issues and number of comments received

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key issue</th>
<th>Number of comments made about this issue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intersection treatments</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyclist and pedestrian facilities</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property adjustments, acquisition and values</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access during construction and traffic disruptions</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultation process</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational noise/vibration</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic capacity</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flooding</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project timeline</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction noise/vibration</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oppose upgrade</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public transport facilities</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social amenity</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual amenity</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total comments</strong></td>
<td><strong>66</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4.1.1 Intersection treatments

The majority of responses received concerned intersection treatments. Fifty per cent of the 22 comments perceived that traffic lights were not being provided at the Pacific Highway and Railway Crescent intersection, which caused concern.
Two other issues included:

- Right turn ban at Dora Street (4 comments)
- Concerns about traffic flow impacts from the installation of new traffic lights on the Pacific Highway at the MacDonalds Road intersection (3 comments)

**Roads and Maritime response**

The proposal includes installation of traffic lights at the Pacific Highway and Railway Crescent intersection, however the label to show this on the project map was missing in the community update which was distributed to the community and stakeholders. This has since been amended and the map is correctly showing the label in the community update on the project web page.

Investigations into providing a right turn out of Dora Street onto the Pacific Highway identified insufficient sight lines at the intersection and potential for collisions with traffic turning from the highway into Dora Street. It was concluded that the right turn at Dora Street could not be safely provided.

Alternative options to traffic lights for improving traffic flow at the MacDonalds Road intersection were investigated. Providing a roundabout or bypassing some legs of the intersection would increase the size of the intersection, resulting in a larger impact on the surrounding area. This is not feasible due to the endangered species Melaleuca Biconvexa (a paperbark species) which has been identified adjacent to the intersection. A roundabout also had the disadvantages of reduced traffic capacity and no provisions for cyclists and pedestrians.

### 4.1.2 Safety

Safety was another key issue which was raised in eleven (11) of the forty-six (46) comments received. The majority of comments were concerned that existing safety issues at the Pacific Highway and Railway Crescent would carry through to the proposal if traffic lights were not installed at the intersection. Other concerns related to banning of the right turn out of Dora Street onto Railway Crescent.

**Roads and Maritime response**

Installation of traffic lights at the Pacific Highway and Railway Crescent intersection is confirmed for the proposal and will address safety concerns at the existing intersection. As stated in section 4.1.1, there was a missing label on the project map in the community update which was distributed but this has now been corrected on the project web page.

It has not been possible to safely provide the right turn out of Dora Street as the new intersection at Railway Crescent and the Pacific Highway is too close to allow it. As drivers enter Railway Crescent from the Pacific Highway at a traffic signal controlled intersection, drivers will proceed on either a green right turn arrow (into Railway Crescent) or left off the highway also with a green signal. The short distance between the new traffic signals and Dora Street would not give motorists sufficient time to react to a vehicle right turning out of Dora Street.

### 4.1.3 Cyclist and pedestrian facilities

Four (4) comments were received in regards to cyclist facilities. Comments were supportive of the improvements in the proposal but questioned why the shared cyclist and pedestrian path is proposed for only one side of the highway.
**Roads and Maritime response**

A shared path is proposed for one side of the highway with appropriate crossing opportunities where required. There is insufficient room to widen the highway and provide a shared path on both sides, particularly at the northern end of the proposal where the highway cannot be widened further into the rail corridor or into the cemetery.

### 4.1.4 Property adjustments, acquisition and values

Five (5) comments received sought more information on direct property impacts and potential compensation as a result of the highway widening.

**Roads and Maritime response**

Roads and Maritime will work closely with potentially affected property owners on identified property impacts. Affected properties may include residents, business owners or various other stakeholders with interests such as lessees. The property acquisition process is governed by the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 which provides the basis for assessing compensation. Roads and Maritime will contact individual property owners to discuss the specific impact on each property as the project proceeds and more detail is known.

### 4.1.5 Construction impacts on traffic and access

Two comments received were concerned about construction impacts on traffic flow and access to streets and properties. One comment was concerned about the congestion and increase in delays during the construction near Railway Crescent. Another comment received was concerned about access delays to Gosford hospital if construction of the proposal was constructed at the same time as the Central Coast Highway intersection upgrade at Brisbane Water Drive and Manns Road, West Gosford.

**Roads and Maritime response**

During all road works there are potential delays to through traffic. Construction would be planned to ensure that an acceptable traffic flow is maintained and there are minimal delays to road users. There is no timing for construction of the proposal at this time. However it is expected that any construction activities would occur following the completion of the Central Coast Highway upgrade at West Gosford.

During construction of the new bridge over the rail line it is anticipated that there may be substantial delays to traffic for short periods. It is anticipated that the new bridge would be constructed in two stages to minimise disruption to motorists, which would involve constructing half the bridge and moving traffic onto the new bridge section while the other half of the bridge is constructed. As the new bridge would be higher than the existing bridge there would be some work involving potential road closures that may impact on some motorists. Roads and Maritime would provide as much notice as possible about any disruptions and advise of detours that may need to be taken.
5. Next steps

Feedback received during the public display showed general appreciation for the need for the project and support for the proposal. The feedback received has informed the concept design and specialist studies being completed as part of the review of environmental factors.

Roads and Maritime will continue to work with potentially affected stakeholders and keep the community informed on the project as it develops. Roads and Maritime will:

- Inform the community and stakeholders of consultation outcomes and next steps for the proposal via publication of this report
- Ensure that community and stakeholder comments and suggestions are considered in the ongoing development of the project
- Continue to engage the community and stakeholders and keep them informed as the project develops
- Display the concept design and review of environmental factors for community and stakeholder comment in 2014/15.
Appendices

Appendix A: Community update
Appendix B: Newspaper advertisement
Appendix C: Media release
Upgrading the Central Coast road network between Narara and Lisarow

Pacific Highway upgrade between Ourimbah Street and Parsons Road, Lisarow.

Roads and Maritime Services is planning an upgrade of the Pacific Highway between Narara Creek Road at Narara and Parsons Road, which will be displayed for community feedback by mid 2014.

Features
- Two lanes in each direction on the Pacific Highway
- A new rail overbridge replacing the existing bridge near the Railway Crescent intersection
- Traffic lights at the Macdonalds and Chamberlain Roads intersections
- Improved pedestrian and cycle paths along and across the highway
- Improved parking arrangements at Lisarow Rail Station.

Benefits
- Key benefits of the preferred option include:
  - Improved traffic flow and reduced travel times on the Pacific Highway
  - Improved safety for all road users
  - Improved pedestrian and cycle network.

Next steps
Stakeholders and the community are invited to comment on the preferred option by 6 December 2013.

This community update contains information on the preferred option for the section of highway between Narara Creek Road at Narara and Parsons Road, which will be displayed for community feedback by mid 2014.

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Roads and Maritime will consider this feedback in preparing the concept design.

Roads and Maritime is also finalising the strategic design for the section of highway between Narara Creek Road and Parsons Road, which will be displayed for community feedback by mid 2014.

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Pacific Highway upgrade between Ourimbah Street and Parsons Road, Lisarow

Key
- Shared pedestrian/cycle path
- New footpath
- Existing footpath
- Bus bay/stop/lane
- Retaining wall
- Road

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Date of aerial photography: 2010
Upgrading the Central Coast road network
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Background
Since 2009 Roads and Maritime has carried out extensive investigations and community consultation in order to finalise a preferred route for the upgrade of the Pacific Highway between Narara and Lisarow.

The preferred route along the existing Pacific Highway was approved by the NSW Minister for Roads and Ports in February 2013.

Roads and Maritime has since prepared a preferred strategic design for the section of highway between Ourimbah Street and Parsons Road. The preferred option considers community comments received during the public display period in 2012.

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- Two lanes in each direction on the Pacific Highway
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Upgrading the Central Coast road network between Narara and Lisarow

Project development process

PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIONS
SELECT ROUTE OPTION
DISPLAY THE PREFERRED OPTION
CARRY OUT CONCEPT DESIGN
REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS
APPROVAL TO PROCEED
RELOCATION OF UTILITIES
COMENCEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION

Benefits

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This community update contains information on the preferred option for the section of highway between Narara Creek Road and Parsons Road, which will be displayed for community feedback by mid 2014.

The community is invited to view the plans and find out more information at a staffed display to be held on 21 November 2013 from 12:00pm to 7:00pm at Gosford/Narara Neighbourhood Centre Hall 3-11 Pandala Road Narara NSW 2250.

Comments on the preferred option are invited by 6 December 2013.

For more information visit rms.nsw.gov.au.

Benefits

Key benefits of the preferred option include:

- Improved traffic flow and reduced travel times on the Pacific Highway
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Please send us your feedback by:

Phoning: Roads and Maritime Services project team on (02) 4379 7001 (during business hours)

Emailing: Central Coast Office@rms.nsw.gov.au

Writing to: Roads and Maritime Services

Central Coast Office

PO Box 766 Woy Woy NSW 2256

The community is invited to view the plans and find out more information at a staffed display to be held on 21 November 2013 from 12:00pm to 7:00pm at Gosford/Narara Neighbourhood Centre Hall 3-11 Pandala Road Narara NSW 2250.

Comments on the preferred option are invited by 6 December 2013.

For more information visit rms.nsw.gov.au.

Features

The preferred option includes:

- Two lanes in each direction on the Pacific Highway
- A new rail overbridge replacing the existing bridge near the Railway Crescent intersection
- Traffic lights at the Macdonalds and Chamberlain Roads intersections
- Improved pedestrian and cycle paths along and across the highway
- Improved parking arrangements at Lisarow Rail Station.

Background

Since 2009 Roads and Maritime has carried out extensive investigations and community consultation in order to finalise a preferred route for the upgrade of the Pacific Highway between Narara and Lisarow.

The preferred route along the existing Pacific Highway was approved by the NSW Minister for Roads and Ports in February 2013.

Roads and Maritime has since prepared a preferred strategic design for the section of highway between Ourimbah Street and Parsons Road. The preferred option considers community comments received during the public display period in 2012.

Roads and Maritime Services is planning an upgrade of the Pacific Highway between Narara and Lisarow.

This community update contains information on the preferred option for the section of highway between Narara Creek Road and Parsons Road at Lisarow.

Stakeholders and the community are invited to comment on the preferred option by 6 December 2013. Roads and Maritime will consider this feedback in preparing the concept design.

Roads and Maritime is also finalising the strategic design for the section of highway between Narara Creek Road and Parsons Road, which will be displayed for community feedback by mid 2014.

Next steps

Stakeholders and the community are invited to comment on the preferred option by 6 December 2013. Roads and Maritime will consider this feedback in order to prepare the concept design and review of environmental factors.

Roads and Maritime is also finalising the strategic design for the section of highway between Narara Creek Road and Parsons Road, which will be displayed for community feedback by mid 2014.

This community update contains information on the preferred option for the section of highway between Narara Creek Road and Parsons Road at Lisarow.

Comments on the preferred option are invited by 6 December 2013.

For more information visit rms.nsw.gov.au.

Features

The preferred option includes:

- Two lanes in each direction on the Pacific Highway
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Next steps

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Roads and Maritime is also finalising the strategic design for the section of highway between Narara Creek Road and Parsons Road, which will be displayed for community feedback by mid 2014.

This community update contains information on the preferred option for the section of highway between Narara Creek Road and Parsons Road at Lisarow.

Comments on the preferred option are invited by 6 December 2013.

For more information visit rms.nsw.gov.au.

Features

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- Two lanes in each direction on the Pacific Highway
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- Improved parking arrangements at Lisarow Rail Station.

Background

Since 2009 Roads and Maritime has carried out extensive investigations and community consultation in order to finalise a preferred route for the upgrade of the Pacific Highway between Narara and Lisarow.

The preferred route along the existing Pacific Highway was approved by the NSW Minister for Roads and Ports in February 2013.

Roads and Maritime has since prepared a preferred strategic design for the section of highway between Ourimbah Street and Parsons Road. The preferred option considers community comments received during the public display period in 2012.

Roads and Maritime Services is planning an upgrade of the Pacific Highway between Narara and Lisarow.

This community update contains information on the preferred option for the section of highway between Narara Creek Road and Parsons Road at Lisarow.

Stakeholders and the community are invited to comment on the preferred option by 6 December 2013. Roads and Maritime will consider this feedback in preparing the concept design.

Roads and Maritime is also finalising the strategic design for the section of highway between Narara Creek Road and Parsons Road, which will be displayed for community feedback by mid 2014.

Features

The preferred option includes:

- Two lanes in each direction on the Pacific Highway
- A new rail overbridge replacing the existing bridge near the Railway Crescent intersection
- Traffic lights at the Macdonalds and Chamberlain Roads intersections
- Improved pedestrian and cycle paths along and across the highway
- Improved parking arrangements at Lisarow Rail Station.
Roads and Maritime Services is planning a major upgrade of the Pacific Highway between Ourimbah Street and Parsons Road, Lisarow to improve traffic flow and safety.

The community is invited to view the plans and find out more information at a staffed display to be held on 21 November 2013 from 12.00pm to 7.00pm at Gosford/ Narara Neighbourhood Centre Hall, 2-12 Pandala Road, Narara.

The proposal and community update are available to view at rms.nsw.gov.au, the Roads and Maritime Motor Registry offices at Erina and Wyong and the Roads and Maritime Woy Woy office.

The community is invited to comment on the proposed upgrade by 6 December 2013.

Feedback will be considered by Roads and Maritime in preparing the concept design.

For more information please contact the Roads and Maritime project team on 02 4379 7001, Central.Coast.Office@rms.nsw.gov.au or visit rms.nsw.gov.au
HAVE YOUR SAY ON PLANNED UPGRADE OF PACIFIC HIGHWAY AT LISAROW

The community is invited to comment on the preferred option to improve traffic flow and reduce travel times along the Pacific Highway between Ourimbah Street and Parsons Road at Lisarow.

A Roads and Maritime Services spokesperson said the NSW Government has allocated $2 million this financial year to progress planning for this upgrade which involves widening the highway to provide two lanes in each direction.

“The preferred option considers community comments received during the public display of options in March 2012,” the spokesperson said.

“In addition to road widening, Roads and Maritime Services proposes to build a new rail overbridge to replace the existing bridge near the Railway Crescent intersection.

“New traffic lights would also be installed at the Macdonalds Road intersection and the existing traffic lights at Chamberlain Road would be upgraded.

"The preferred option design also includes improved pedestrian and cycle paths along and across the highway, and improved access to the parking area at Lisarow Rail Station.

“The design will be available for community comment until 29 November online at www.rms.nsw.gov.au and at the Erina and Wyong motor registries.

“All community feedback will be considered as work progresses to prepare the concept design and review of environmental factors.

“Roads and Maritime is also finalising the strategic design for the section of the highway between Narara Creek Road and Parsons Road, which is planned to be displayed for community feedback by mid 2014," the spokesperson said.

The preferred option and community update are available to view at www.rms.nsw.gov.au and the Roads and Maritime motor registry offices at Gosford and Wyong.