Roundabout improvements at the Hospital Roundabout at Maitland

Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) has developed a favoured option for the Hospital Roundabout at Maitland. RMS is seeking community feedback on this favoured option by 27 March 2013.

Background

The NSW Government through the Hunter Infrastructure and Investment Fund has provided $45 million for upgrades to the two five leg Maitland roundabouts at Church Street (near Maitland Railway Station) and High Street (near Maitland Hospital).

The majority of the $45M will be allocated to the Railway Station Roundabout which is a higher priority intersection for the following reasons:

• The Railway Station Roundabout has more consistent and extensive queues and delays than the Hospital Roundabout.
• The Railway Station Roundabout serves a higher order function as the intersection of two State roads (New England Highway and Cessnock Road) and will provide a crucial link to the Hunter Expressway from 2013 onwards.
• The Railway Station Roundabout experiences many conflicting turning movements during peak periods, which leads to delays on the highway. The Hospital Roundabout is dominated by through traffic on the New England Highway, which is expected to be significantly reduced when the Hunter Expressway is completed at the end of this year.
• The favoured option for the Hospital Roundabout involves improvements to the existing roundabout and new traffic lights at the Johnson Street and New England Highway intersection.
Hospital Roundabout

In February 2012 RMS released two proposals for the Hospital Roundabout for public comment. The two options presented were a 4 leg roundabout and 4 leg traffic signals. Both options involved consolidation of Johnson Street and Bungaree Street legs, to reduce the complexity of the roundabout and improve safety. A meeting was also held in May 2012 with local residents and businesses to discuss these proposals.

An options assessment report containing information on the options considered for the Hospital Roundabout is available for your information on the RMS website www.rms.nsw.gov.au.

Following an assessment of the public feedback for the Hospital Roundabout, RMS has developed a favoured option to improve safety and traffic flow at the Hospital Roundabout. Overleaf is the favoured option which involves the following:

- Installation of traffic signals at Johnson Street (northern end). These signals would be linked to the existing traffic signals at John Street traffic signals and would effectively operate as one set of signals. The signals would provide an alternative and safer exit onto the New England Highway for Johnson Street traffic, especially during traffic peaks.

- Removal of existing pedestrian mid block signals (not shown) between John Street and the roundabout. Pedestrians will be able to cross at the Johnson Street signals approximately 60 metres away.

- Construction of a left turn slip lane for traffic travelling eastbound into High Street. This will separate left turning vehicles from the through traffic on the highway, and assist traffic entering onto the roundabout from High Street in identifying gaps in oncoming traffic.

- Construction of a left turn slip lane for traffic travelling westbound into Bungaree Street. This will separate left turning vehicles from the through traffic on the highway, and assist entering onto the roundabout from Bungaree Street in identifying gaps in oncoming traffic.

A concept drawing of the favoured option is shown on the following page.

Railway Station Roundabout

A favoured option for the Railway Station Roundabout was distributed for public comment in August/September 2012. Following a review of submissions, RMS is finalising a preferred option for the Railway Station Roundabout, which is expected to be released in April 2013.

Further Information

Please contact Adam Thomas on 02 49 240 611 for any further information about the favoured option, or email your comments to Adam.Thomas@rms.nsw.gov.au by 27 March 2013.

RMS officers will be available at Monte Pio at Maitland on Wednesday, 13 March 2013 between 4pm and 7pm to discuss the proposal.

Please contact us if you plan to attend for catering and room set up purposes on 02 4924 0240 or email Sharon.Parr@rms.nsw.gov.au. Thank you.
Favoured option
The favoured option we are currently considering for the Hospital Roundabout at Maitland for community discussion.
Project objectives

The main objective of this project is to provide upgrades at the Railway and Hospital roundabouts to improve safety and cater for future traffic growth.

The $45M funding provided by the Hunter Infrastructure and Investment Fund has been provided specifically for improvements associated with the Hospital and Railway Station Roundabouts.

The focus of the planning for this project is on identifying options for the two roundabouts which maximise safety and traffic efficiency benefits within the funding allocated. The $45M provided covers both the Railway Station and Hospital Roundabouts.

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Send your comments to
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