New England Highway bypass of Scone

Project update – start of construction
Roads and Maritime Services | August 2018

The Australian and NSW governments are jointly funding construction of the New England Highway bypass of Scone.

The bypass will remove around 500 heavy vehicles from the town centre of Scone and will improve traffic flow, travel times, and safety for all road users. Major construction started in June 2018.

Background

The New England Highway south of Scone carries 8400 vehicles a day, peaking in town at 14,000. Around 8000 vehicles use the Kelly Street crossing every day, including 1200 heavy vehicles. Following extensive community consultation and environmental assessment, the preferred route was assessed and approved in April 2016. An Environment Protection Licence (EPL) was also issued to regulate environmental impacts during construction.

In March 2018, Daracon was awarded the contract for construction of the New England Highway bypass of Scone.
**Features**

Key features of the upgrade include:

- a two lane highway bypass to the west of Scone passing between White Park and the redeveloped Scone golf course
- three bridges – providing a grade-separated intersection at the southern end, crossing over the rail line south of Scone, and crossing over Kingdon and Liverpool streets
- access to and from the bypass to the north and south of town and midway at St Aubins Street providing for all turning movements.

The bypass responds to site specific conditions including:

- close and multiple accesses to and from town to encourage passing trade
- combination of embankments, bridge structures and formed drainage channels will maintain the existing movement of flood water
- bridge over the rail line which provides an alternative route across town improving access for emergency services and other road users
- Aboriginal and European heritage investigation and management
- integration with the redeveloped Scone golf course.

**Progress update**

Construction is now under way following completion of detailed planning and field investigations.

Recent activities include:

**May 2018**
- Expression of interest called for local suppliers to assist in construction
- Survey work
- Condition surveys started.

**June 2018**
- Site office established at 12 Makybe Diva Street
- First 27 metre long concrete bridge beam delivered to site compound.

**July 2018**
- Route alignment fenced
- Removal of Bill Rose Sports Complex playground and exercise equipment
- Environmental controls established
- Delivery of embankment fill to site started
- Access routes to the project area developed
- Site clearing activities commenced.

Upcoming construction activities include:
- Delivery of embankment fill to site will continue
- Delivery and storage of beams at bridge locations
- Start of pre-planning work for bridge piling
- Relocation of utilities.

**Fast facts:**

- Five kilometres of two-lane highway
- Around 250,000m³ of imported road fill
- Three bridges (totalling 740 metres)
- Three access points to town
- Local construction jobs
- Around two years to completion

**Construction overview**

1. **Utility and asset protection**

Underground utility services will be identified and protected. Substandard infrastructure will be replaced. Roads to be used by heavy vehicles during construction will be assessed before use and returned to their pre-existing condition at project completion.

2. **Importation of fill**

Construction continues with the importation of around 250,000m³ of fill. This is expected to continue until mid-2019. Fill will be sourced from various locations to minimise heavy vehicle traffic in town.

Heavy vehicles will mostly access the project area from:
- dedicated turning lanes off the New England Highway at the north and south of town
- the golf course via Aberdeen Street and Liverpool Street
- St Aubins Street via Aberdeen Street and Liverpool Street.

3. **Bridge piling**

Piles will be installed at the bridge locations to allow bridging over the Great Northern Railway, Parsons Gully and the new Kelly Street loop road at the southern interchange. A steel sleeve will be vibrated into the ground and soil extracted from the sleeves to form the piles, to reduce noise impacts. Concrete and steel reinforcement will be brought to site to construct the piles.

4. **Road pavement**

The fill will be compacted and tested along the full road corridor. Asphalt and other road materials will be brought to site for construction of the road pavement.

5. **Highway connections**

The bypass will be connected into the New England Highway at the southern and northern ends of town. Construction is expected to be completed in 2020, weather permitting.
Bypass development process

Contact us
If you have any questions or would like more information on the New England Highway bypass of Scone please contact our project team:

1800 870 751 (24 hours)
sconebypass@danacon.com.au
http://www.rms.work/SconeBypass
Scone Bypass Project Team
Locked Bag 2030
Newcastle NSW 2300

If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 1800 870 751.

Community engagement
Our Community Liaison Representative, Shay Riley-Lewis, will be on the ground and available to meet with residents or businesses about the project.

Shay can be contacted by phone on 1800 870 751 or by email at sconebypass@danacon.com.au.

Regular updates will be provided on the project’s website at www.rms.work/SconeBypass and on the NSW Roads Facebook at www.facebook.com/NSWRoads.

A 3D fly-through visualisation of the completed bypass is available to view on the project website.