Empire Bay Drive at The Scenic Road, Kincumber intersection upgrade

August 2017

The NSW Government is providing $1.5 million in 2017/18 for planning and design of a proposed roundabout upgrade at this intersection.

Background

Roads and Maritime Services is planning to upgrade the intersection of Empire Bay Drive, The Scenic Road and Cochrone Street at Kincumber. The proposal aims to reduce congestion, and improve traffic flow and travel times for the 25,000 motorists travelling along Empire Bay Drive between Kerta Road and Avoca Drive each day.

A strategic design of the proposal was displayed for community feedback in May 2016. Further investigations and design work was done to address the feedback we received and incorporated into the amended strategic design displayed in May 2017. Key issues raised during consultation on the amended strategic design included:

- objection to the connection of Wallan Road to the roundabout intersection at Cullens Road and The Scenic Road
- objection to the loss of on-street parking on Cochrone Street and its impact on local businesses
- preference to maintain a roundabout to control the intersection.

These issues have been considered and responses are detailed in the published Community Consultation Report which can be viewed at rms.nsw.gov.au/empirebaydrive. We will continue to consider these issues and others when preparing the concept design and environmental assessment.

After considering all responses, along with the proposal’s aims and design requirements, Roads and Maritime will further investigate options to provide an improved roundabout at this location. A possible option for an upgraded roundabout design is attached for information in this community update.
Empire Bay Drive at The Scenic Road, Kincumber intersection upgrade – revised preferred option being investigated

- No right turn out of Sundowner Avenue
- Two lane roundabout
- Right turn in to Sundowner Avenue
- Proposed pedestrian traffic lights
- Proposed indented bus bay
- No changes to bus stops on The Scenic Road

**KEY**
- Median
- 3 metre shared/pedestrian path
- 1.5 metre pathway
- No stopping
- Bus stop
Option now being investigated – two lane roundabout

We thank the community and stakeholders for their feedback.

After considering all responses, along with the proposal’s aims and design requirements, Roads and Maritime will further investigate options to provide an improved roundabout at this location, rather than traffic lights.

It is expected a roundabout design will address the majority of community concerns but it is important Roads and Maritime confirms that satisfactory traffic improvements can be achieved with this option. An advantage of further investigating a roundabout solution will be that this approach would not require any further consideration of connecting Wallan Road to the roundabout at Cullens Road and The Scenic Road. These issues were key concerns raised by the community in relation to the proposed project.

As well as providing traffic flow benefits, it is anticipated that an upgraded two lane roundabout would alleviate a number of concerns raised by the community, including:
• significantly less property needing to be acquired
• less impact on local businesses with business acquisition unlikely to be needed
• allowing for the retention of most on-street parking on Cochrone Street
• allowing for the retention of some on-street parking on The Scenic Road
• retaining access to Sundowner Avenue
• allowing Wallan Road to stay disconnected from The Scenic Road/Cullens Road roundabout.

The opportunity to provide feedback on the revised preferred option will be available in early 2018 when the environmental assessment is displayed for community comment.

We will continue to keep the community and stakeholders informed as the project progresses.