

## **Berry bypass Community review group meeting # 3 update**

The Berry bypass community review group held a discussion on 21 September 2011.

This discussion started around a clarification of what the group was there to achieve. The group talked about the announcement by local member Gareth Ward to examine the area immediately to the north of Berry.

The assessment criteria that will be used to evaluate the options were discussed in a preliminary way. The group talked about how the decision to refine the Berry bypass preferred option would ultimately be made. The discussions and outcomes from the community review group, submissions from the wider community, recommendations from a workshop and the results of the technical studies will all be considered.

The group will give further consideration at the next meeting to how the value management workshop will be conducted. This includes the potential to engage an independent community advocate to assist in group discussions, and to help identify participants to attend. The group will consider if an external community advocate should be involved in this process, to ensure equity and transparency.

To improve the group's understanding of noise issues, a community member (an acoustic engineer) gave a comprehensive presentation on noise, how it is perceived and what it takes change the level of noise we are hearing.

Flooding information was provided. This was useful to help the group understand the one in one hundred year flood extent and how that would influence any road design.

The RTA led a discussion on potential vertical and horizontal alignment options within the study area that are currently being re-examined. The group talked through the impacts of these, and identified that there are potentially other options within the study area.

It was also raised that focus should continue on how to lessen the impacts of the current preferred option at North Street and along the bridge over Broughton Mill and Bundewallah creeks. A proposal was put forward by a member of the group (a retired bridge engineer) that cuts deeper into the ridge at the eastern end of the study area, thereby lowering the height of the bridge. The RTA agreed to investigate this further with that community member.

It was accepted that the current preferred route and any potential change would have impacts and that this process will result in a trade off between issues.

The next discussion is to be held after the school holidays. The group aims to consider further the options and has requested more technical investigations by the RTA be presented.

The RTA will then as a next step display options to the wider community on how to reduce the impacts presented by the preferred alignment – by refining the design or adjusting the route within the identified study area. This information will be publicly available in October with a community meeting to be held and wider community comment to be invited.

Meeting notes and the presentations are on the RTA website.

**For more information:**

Project information line (free call) 1800 506 976

[foxgroundandberrybypass@rta.nsw.gov.au](mailto:foxgroundandberrybypass@rta.nsw.gov.au)

[www.rta.nsw.gov.au/fbb](http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/fbb)

Berry project office open 10am – 5pm each Friday, Broughton Court Shop

3/113 Queen Street Berry

Placed by the RTA on behalf of the community review group

22 September 2011