

Meeting Notes



Transport
Roads & Maritime
Services

January 2012

Berry bypass

- Victoria Street discussion

Attendees

Darryl Punnet, The Grange At Berry
David Munn, Berry Public School P&C and Residents Representative
Lucie Stanford, Berry Public School P&C President
James Robinson, The Arbour Berry
Tim Tait, Bupa Care Services
Gareth Ward, Member for Kiama
Peter Adams, Shoalhaven City Council
Bob Croker, Residents Representative
Ron de Rooy, RMS
Renee Ridley, RMS
Julian Watson, RMS
Mark Kheireddine, RMS

Apologies: Andrew Guile, Deputy Mayor, Shoalhaven City Council

	<i>Summary</i>
Update on the project process	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RMS gave an update on the progress of the proposed Foxground and Berry bypass project:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparation for the environmental assessment is progressing (EA).• Discussions continuing with property owners on issues relating to property access, heavy vehicle rest area, flooding, noise and visual impacts in the Foxground and Berry bypass project area.• Issues raised will be captured as part of the EA process.• RMS explained the planned urban design process. Will involve the community, council and RMS.
School and community safety on Victoria Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussed the Berry Public School P&C submission/concerns, which are supported by 105 resident letters.• Discussions centred around traffic safety issues facing the school and local community and the additional impact the proposed Berry bypass design has on this.• The Community Group advised that this was a once only opportunity to create a safer and more functional / attractive community space, advising that there is a growing local aged and young family population that would be otherwise impacted.• The group talked through the concerns from The Arbour, Bupa and The Grange related to access and Mark Radium Park, noting that some of these residents already help maintain the park and are encouraged to do so by Council.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Community Group requested:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A cul-de-sac at the western end of Victoria Street.• Queen Street southbound on ramp direct from the Highway.• The benefits of this new design were discussed, including improved community safety, increased amenity of Mark Radium Park for residents, encouraging through traffic to use the commercial centre of town, reduced RMS by-pass build costs etc.• Council agreed the community should discuss the future function of Mark Radium Park. The design of the bypass should support the function of the park, not vice versa. This is an opportunity to create a usable space for locals.• RMS and Council agreed that having Victoria Street opened to traffic would not increase traffic along Victoria Street or past the school. There may be a change in traffic patterns for Victoria Street and other adjoining streets.• The Community Group disagreed in regards to southbound traffic and emphasised that any through traffic on Victoria Street is unnecessary, given that Queen Street is the designated primary route and projected by the RMS to carry 70% less traffic than today
Pedestrian access across new highway	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RMS gave an overview of the planned pedestrian and cycleway facilities as they are at this stage in the design process. This includes road shoulders for 'on-road' cyclists and a shared path separated from traffic for family, child and other cyclists seeking to avoid the general traffic streams.• RMS described how the pedestrian and shared path links may operate around Kangaroo Valley Road, North Street, Huntingdale Park Road, Mark Radium Park, Berry Public School and the Queen Street commercial area..• These plans were well received but it was agreed that there was opportunity to refine/change this.• More discussion is needed with the community and the proposed urban design workshops were considered to be a good way to begin to undertake this discussion.
Single point of crossing the new Highway	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This concern was briefly discussed.• RMS advised there are many locations where this is the case, The bridge will be a widened bridge so the risk of incident remains low and the ability to manage incidents would be strong.• RMS remains confident that maintenance of the Kangaroo Valley Road interchange bridge will be straightforward.• The Community Group requested that design consider the location of the nearest highway turning / crossing points in the event of bridge closure.

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<p>Community Working Group, including Urban Design workshops</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RMS discussed a community working group (CWG) that is being established. The group is open to all residents in the Foxground and Berry area who are interested in working with RMS on design aspects of the project.• RMS explained that the intention is to establish sub-groups to focus on specific design issues such as the north street precinct, Berry bridge, heavy vehicle rest area etc. These sub-groups would feed back into the CWG.• Also proposed is a set of urban design workshops to guide the design and end uses of the future highway and township interface areas.• Those in attendance agreed this would be the appropriate way to work through the future use of Mark Radium Park and the Victoria Street issues raised.• Issues such as pedestrian movement and noise mitigation would also be discussed in this forum and the urban design workshop.• RMS, council and the local member encouraged representation from this meeting in the appropriate sub group.• The first CWG meeting will be held on 8 February 2012 from 6.30pm to 8.30pm in Berry, cuppa from 6pm. The group will then meet regularly over the coming months. The first urban design workshop is proposed for the end of February.
<p>Other issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The group discussed access to The Arbour and Bupa and the development application conditions around this. More information is needed to determine if cul-de-sacing Victoria Street would provide an opportunity to change this.• Flooding concerns as a result of the new Highway were also discussed. RMS advised that they have been working closely with council and had access to council's recently completed flood study. The new bypass would not worsen the impacts flooding. Flooding is also being assessed as part of the EA process.