

Great Western Highway upgrade – Kelso to Raglan

Display of concept design

Frequently asked questions – July 2019

About the project

What is happening?

Planning and design is underway to upgrade the Great Western Highway between Kelso and Raglan.

Is there funding for the project?

Yes, the NSW Government is providing \$30 million for construction of the project.

What are the key features of the project?

The key features of the project include:

- Upgrading 3.6 kilometres of highway beginning at the Ashworth Drive roundabout in Kelso and ending at Ceramic Avenue just east of Raglan
- Upgrading the highway to include two eastbound lanes which will join the overtaking lane east of Ceramic Avenue
- Upgrading the highway to include two westbound lanes from Napoleon Street in Raglan which will join the two westbound lanes currently finishing at Ashworth Drive
- Constructing a new road with a 20 year life
- Improving intersections throughout the project
- Installing centre medians to separate traffic travelling in each direction
- Constructing a shared pedestrian/cycle path between Ashworth Drive and Eugenie Street

What are the project benefits?

- Reduced congestion, particularly during major events and holiday periods
- Greatly improved road strength and smoothness with reduced maintenance requirements
- Improved access to Bathurst Airport
- Improved connections for regional communities
- Improved road safety for through traffic and local traffic
- Reduced vehicle operating costs
- Improved pedestrian and cycle safety

What are the key design considerations for the project?

- Improved journey time and journey time reliability for road users
- Facilitate potential future highway upgrades to the east
- Safety for builders, users and maintainers in all phases of the project
- Minimised disruption to residents and traffic during construction
- Minimise impacts on adjoining properties
- Considerate of potential environmental impacts
- Achieves a positive urban design outcome

Will I be able to turn right into my driveway if I am heading east from Bathurst?

No, however a safer alternative will be provided via a U-turn facility at Eugenie Street.

How will my children get to and from the bus stop on the northern (eastbound) side of the highway?

We are looking at options to provide a pedestrian refuge in the vicinity of Nelson Street for residents and children to safely cross the highway with adequate sight distance.

Roads and Maritime is also consulting with local bus companies to understand the current bus routes and timetables. Where possible, a preferred option would be to construct a bus stop on the southern side of the highway to eliminate the need for children and other transport users to cross the road.

What will the speed limit be?

Speed limits are expected to remain as they are currently posted (100km/h east of Ceramic Avenue, 80km/h through to east of Ashworth Drive and 60km/h west from there).

Which streets will I be able to turn right into and out of, onto the highway?

You will be able to turn left or right into and out of Ceramic Avenue, PJ Moodie Drive, Eugenie Street, and Napoleon Street. Nile Street and Locke Street will be left in, left out only. Access from the highway to Nelson Street will remain closed.

Left turn deceleration and right turn storage lanes will be provided at Ceramic Avenue, PJ Moodie Drive, Eugenie Street, and Napoleon Street. Left turn deceleration lanes will be provided at Nile Street, Locke Street and Bathurst Sheds.

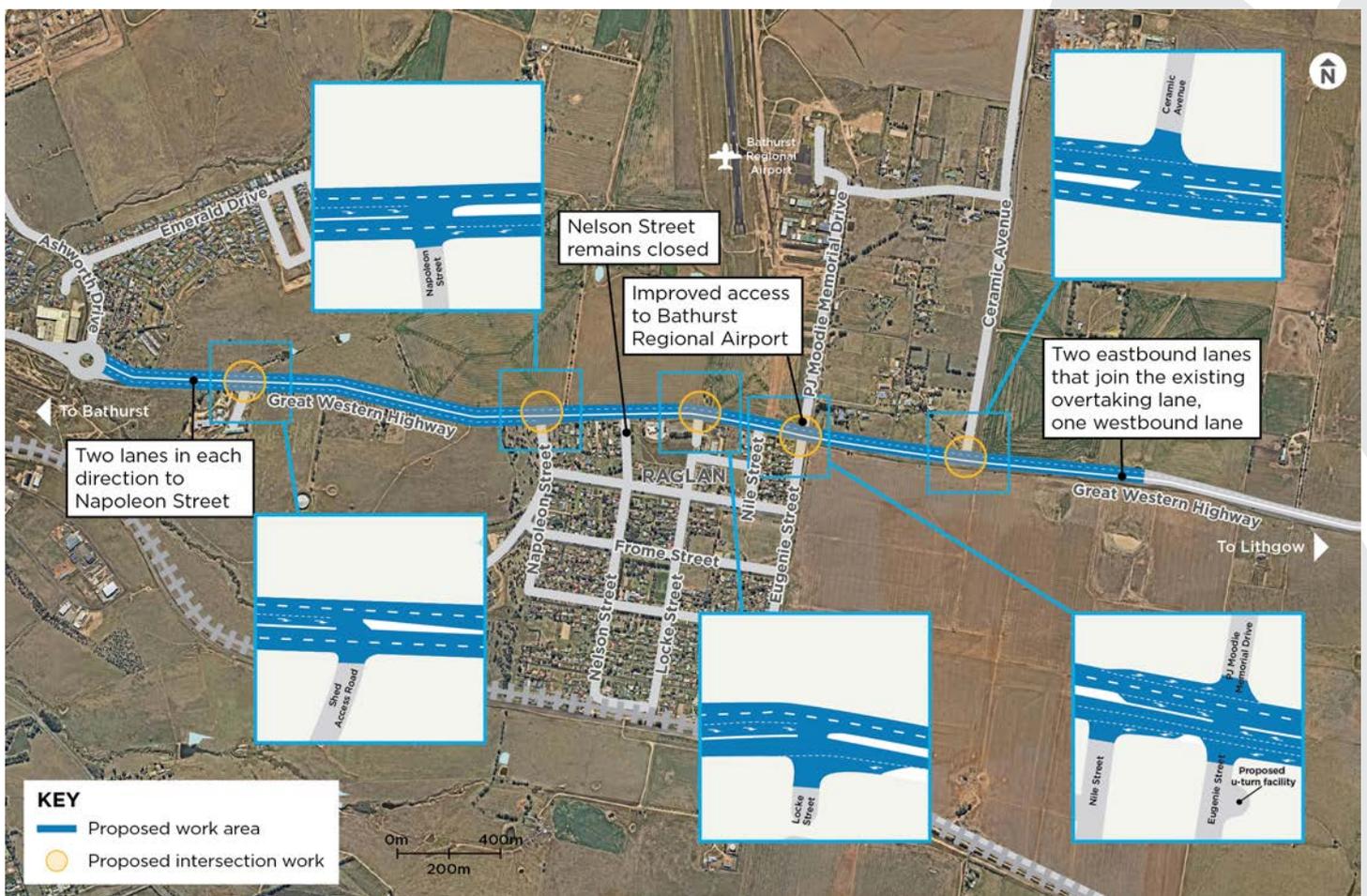
Why aren't there more roundabouts being built at the intersections?

The Kelso to Raglan upgrade is focussing on increasing traffic efficiency, particularly during peak times such as major events and holiday periods. Installing roundabouts would slow traffic and are not considered an efficient solution for this section of the highway.

The upgrade connects into the Ashworth Drive roundabout to the west which offers connectivity into current and future developments to the north of the highway.

Will there be changes to the roundabout at Ashworth Drive?

There are no current plans to alter the roundabout at Ashworth Drive. There may be some temporary changes during construction.



Information for the community

How will the community be informed about the development of the project?

Roads and Maritime will work with the community and stakeholders during the planning and design of the Great Western Highway upgrade to understand issues and minimise potential impacts.

All community and stakeholder feedback on the project is welcome.

We will liaise directly with impacted property owners, as well as engaging with the broader community and other stakeholders through information sessions, Roads and Maritime Facebook page as well as the local media.

Community information sessions

Roads and Maritime will hold community drop in sessions as follows:

Bathurst City Centre, 210 Howick Street, Bathurst

- Thursday 25 July 11am – 2pm
- Thursday 1 August 3pm – 7pm

Raglan Community Hall, Frome Street Raglan

- Friday 26 July 10:30am – 2:30pm

Staff from the project team will be available to answer your questions about the project.

We will also have an unstaffed display at Bathurst Regional Council, 158 Russell Street, Bathurst NSW.

Construction

When would construction of the Great Western Highway upgrade Kelso to Raglan start?

Roads and Maritime expects to start construction of the project in early 2020 and would take approximately 18 months to build. There is likely to be some early works at the end of 2019 to prepare for the start of construction in 2020. We will work with the community and stakeholders and will provide information about construction hours and potential construction impacts before work starts. For construction works outside of standard construction hours, we will consult with the local community and stakeholders before the start of out-of-hours work.

Will kerb and gutter be constructed?

Kerb and gutter will be constructed on the southern side of the highway between Eugenie Street and Napoleon Street. Other areas will be vegetated/landscaped table drains.

What will be the traffic arrangements during construction?

Temporary reduced speed limits will be in place. Traffic will be separated from the worksite by temporary barriers where possible. Local arrangements will need to be made with residents in order for them to access their properties during the works. Other than infrequent short stoppages, two lanes of traffic will remain open on the highway during the project. Some night works may be required in order to mitigate traffic delays when working around intersections and pinch points.

We will consult with the community in planning our work times and traffic arrangements.

Other information

What happens next?

Roads and Maritime is completing the detail design and environmental assessment for the project. Further investigation work is scheduled for 2019 which will inform the project's final design. This will include environmental assessments, community and stakeholder engagement and completion of geotechnical studies.

Great Western Highway upgrade program and other projects in the region

The NSW Government recognises the importance of the Great Western Highway to regional communities and has been progressively upgrading sections of the highway.

Other nearby projects underway include the Great Western Highway duplication between Katoomba and Lithgow, investigation of bypasses at Blackheath and Mount Victoria, and road safety improvements from Katoomba to Mount Victoria.

Roads and Maritime will continue to work with the community and stakeholders, including the region's producers and agricultural companies, local business, freight and transport providers, to improve efficiency and safety in the region.

Contact us

If you have any questions or would like more information please contact our project team:



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More information is also available at:



www.rms.nsw.gov.au/kelsotoraglan



If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 02 6369 5423.



Great Western Highway at Raglan



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