

Have your say

Proposed safety improvements for the New England Highway at Whittingham

November 2019



Roads and Maritime Services is seeking feedback on proposed safety improvements for the New England Highway, between the Golden Highway and Newington Lane, at Whittingham.

The NSW Government is investing \$3.29 million for the proposal to improve safety for road users and reduce the risk of crashes along this eight kilometre section of the highway.

Project overview

The proposal involves:

- resurfacing 950 metres of the highway from Range Road towards Singleton
- installing a one metre wide painted centreline along a 2.2 kilometre section of the highway between Range Road and Newington Lane
- installing audio-tactile line marking along the edge and centrelines
- installing street lighting at the Range Road and Racecourse Lane intersections
- installing median and roadside safety barriers at various locations on the highway
- signage and delineation improvements on the approaches to Mudies Creek Bridge
- tree trimming to improve sight distance
- maintenance and minor access improvements along the route.

In addition to the proposal, work is already under way on an intersection upgrade to provide right turn bays for motorists exiting the highway at Haggartys Lane and Cemetery Lane. The NSW Government has provided \$820,000 this financial year to deliver this upgrade.

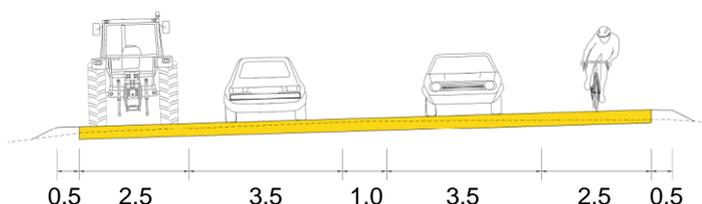
Wide centreline

The introduction of a one metre wide centreline will improve safety by providing greater separation between vehicles travelling in opposite directions.

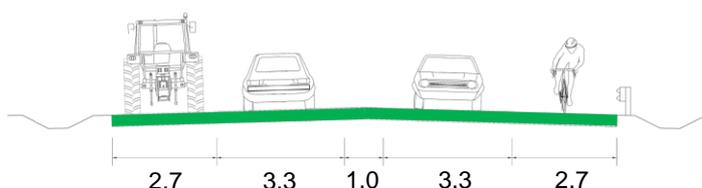
To cater for the wide centreline some lane and shoulder width adjustments are required.

The proposal, as shown in the diagram over the page, includes:

- **3.5 metre wide lanes with 2.5 metre wide shoulders** (reduced from three metres) from north of Range Road to north of the curve on the New England Highway (yellow section on map).



- **3.3 metre wide lanes with 2.7 metre wide shoulders** (reduced from three metres) from north of the curve to Newington Lane (green section on map).



This 2.7 metre shoulder allows for farm equipment travelling this section of the highway. Where the shoulder narrows, the new wide centerline allows vehicles to move onto the painted centerline to safely move around farming equipment.

Audio tactile line marking

The proposal at Whittingham incorporates audio tactile line marking (ATLM) on the edge lines and centrelines along sections of the highway.

We will directly contact residents living along these sections of the highway to seek feedback on the proposed locations of the ATLM.

What is ATLM?

ATLM, sometimes called 'rumble strips' are small raised bumps typically placed along the edges of roads and in the centre of roads.

ATLM alerts a driver or rider when they are drifting out of their lane, by generating a distinct sound and vibration when their vehicle tyre comes into contact with it.

ATLM is intended to allow drivers the opportunity to correct their path and reduce the risk of crashes due to driver inattention (such as fatigue).

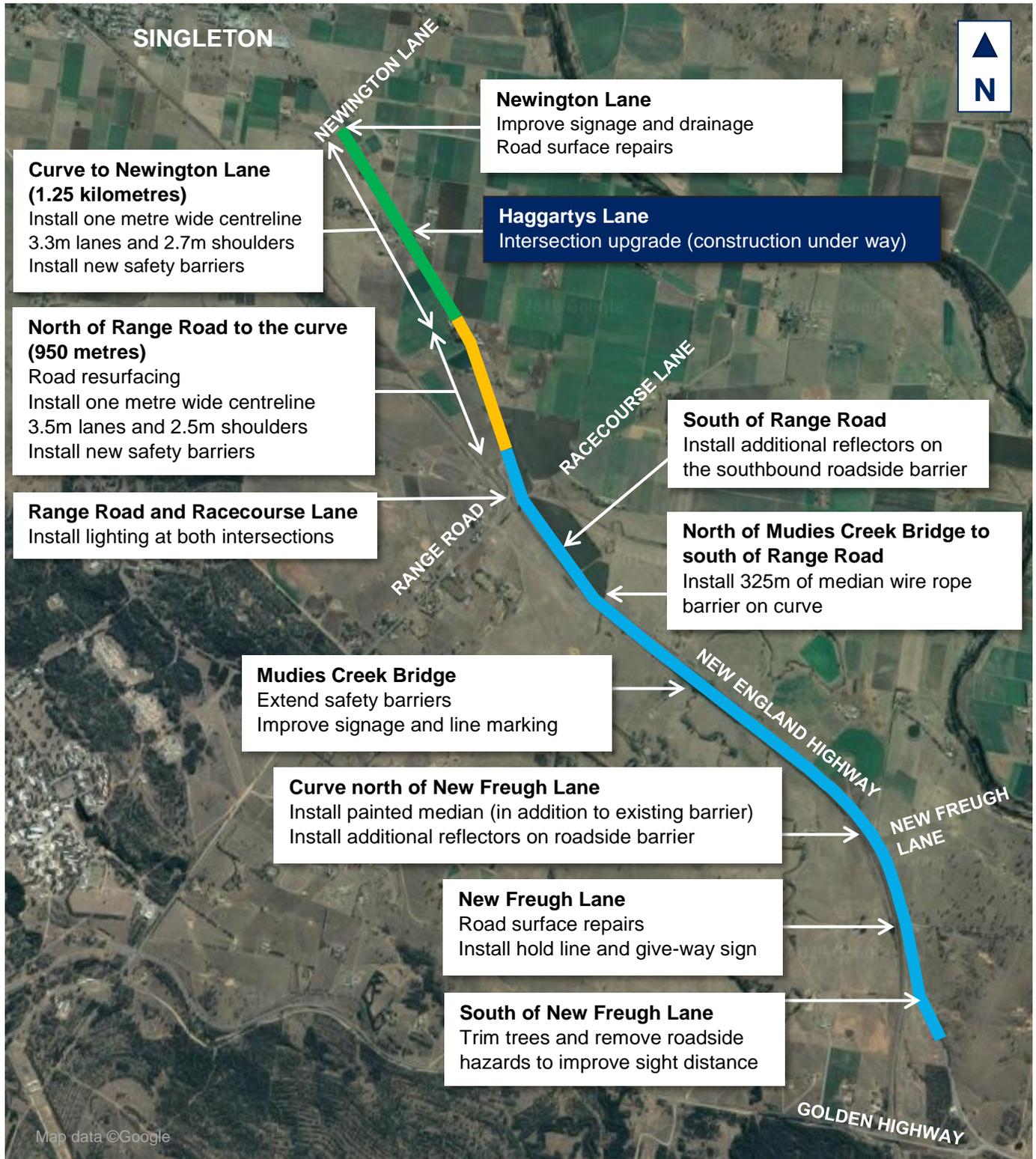
This treatment targets run-off-road to left and head-on crashes. It is also particularly effective in night-time conditions or adverse weather conditions.

This type of line marking is a highly effective road safety treatment, estimated to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes by 15 to 25 per cent.



Audio tactile line marking applied at 200mm offset from edge lines and wide centreline

Proposed safety improvements



KEY for audio tactile line marking (ATLM)

- South of New Freugh Lane to north of Range Road**
ATLM edge and centrelines
- North of Range Road to curve in the highway**
One metre wide centreline, 3.5 metre lanes, 2.5 metre shoulders and ATLM centrelines
- Curve in the highway to Newington Lane**
One metre wide centreline, 3.3 metre lanes, 2.7 metre shoulders and ATLM centrelines

Have your say

You are invited to provide feedback by **Friday 6 December**.



Complete our online survey at:
rms.work/whittingham



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Improving safety



Reduce fatalities and serious injury

Speed zone review

Roads and Maritime is currently completing a speed zone review for the New England Highway at Whittingham.

The speed zone review is assessing a number of factors including crash history, road geometry, road environment, traffic volumes and the number of access points.

We will notify the community of the outcomes of this speed zone review when it has been completed.

Next steps

We will carefully consider your feedback on the proposed safety improvements and continue to keep you updated as the project progresses.

Contact us

If you have any questions or would like more on the proposal please contact our project team:



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rms.work/whittingham



131 450

If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 0436 454 028.