

Additional crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton Community update



Transport
Roads & Maritime
Services

SEPTEMBER 2013

Roads and Maritime Services is refining a concept design and preparing an environmental impact statement for a new bridge over the Clarence River at Grafton.

This community update outlines the next steps.

In April 2013, the Minister for Roads and Ports announced Option C as the preferred option for an additional crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton.

The new crossing would be located about 70 metres downstream of the existing Grafton Bridge and connects from the junction of the Pacific and Gwydir highways, South Grafton to Villiers Street, Grafton via Pound Street.

Project update

The proposal is now being assessed as a State Significant Infrastructure (SSI) project under Part 5.1 of the *Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

A copy of the SSI application report provided by Roads and Maritime to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure is available to view on the Department's website at www.planning.nsw.gov.au.

The package of work being assessed includes a new bridge and upgrades to the local road network required to cater for predicted traffic volumes through to about 30 years after opening.

Although the environmental impact statement will address the works identified in the Preferred Option Report, only some of the upgrades identified in the preferred option announcement (such as intersection upgrades and road widening) will be required when the new bridge is opened to traffic.

Additional work could be undertaken when required to cater for increases in traffic volumes.

Next steps

The next steps include preparation of studies and investigations for the proposal's environmental impact statement once requirements are received from the Director-General of the Department of Planning and Infrastructure.

The environmental impact statement will describe the proposal, potential impacts and how these impacts are proposed to be managed.

Once these studies and investigations have been completed, the refined concept design and the EIS will be displayed for community comment.

Timing for construction of the proposal has not yet been determined and will be subject to planning approval and available funding.

Need more information?

Contact the project team

Visit: www.rms.nsw.gov.au/grafonbridge

Phone: 1800 633 332 (toll free)

Email: grafonbridge@rms.nsw.gov.au

Write to: Project Manager Adam Cameron
PO Box 546 Grafton NSW 2460

Roads and Maritime Services