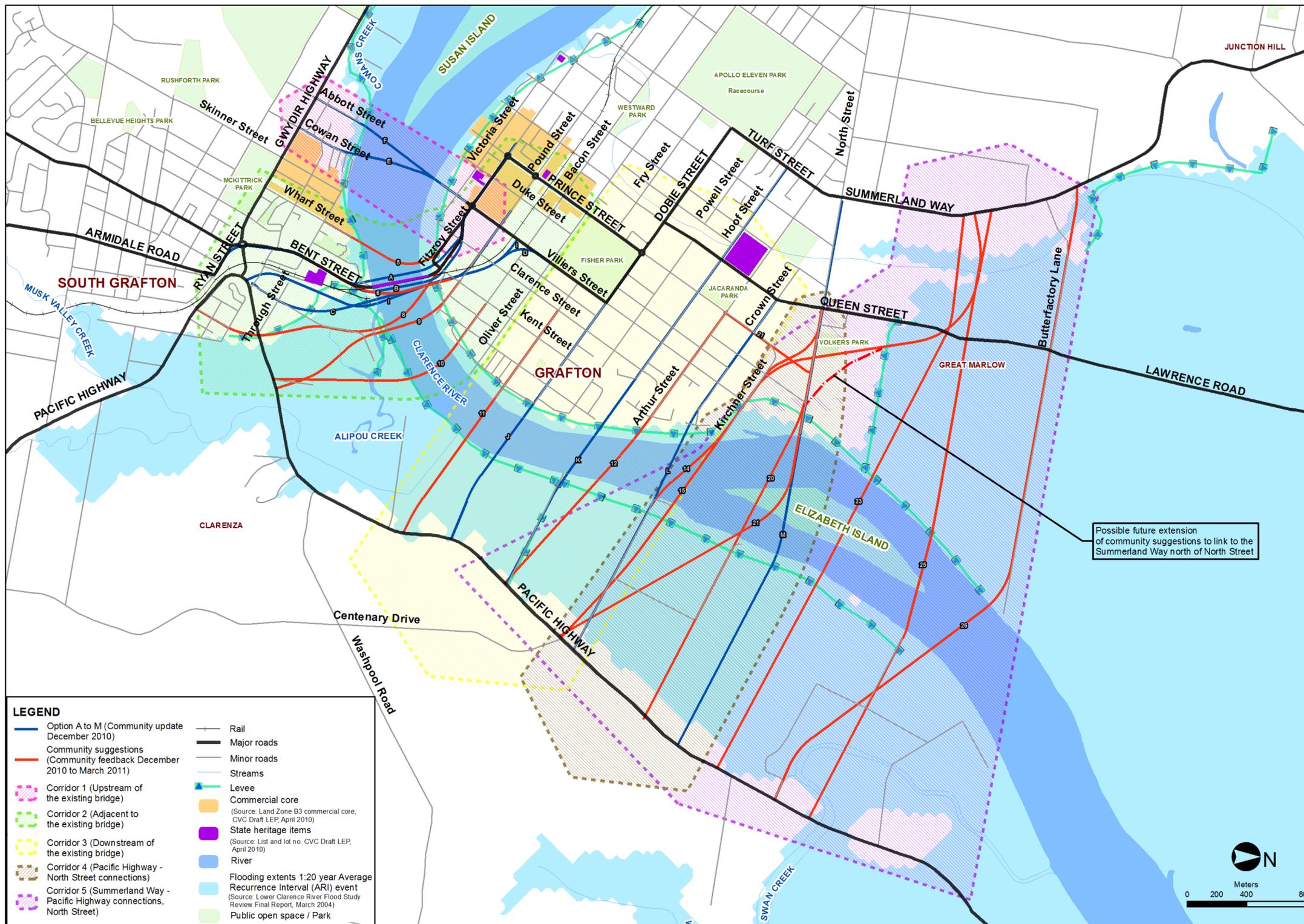


Additional crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton

JUNE 2011



The RTA has assessed the suggestions for an additional crossing of the Clarence River. Some suggestions won't be considered further because there are clear reasons at this stage why they shouldn't. 25 preliminary route options within five strategic corridors will go forward for further engineering and environmental investigations.

Feasibility Assessment Report

The assessment identified those suggestions that are not feasible and therefore should not be considered further.

The assessment used the following considerations:

- Engineering and constructability issues.
- Land use and land use zoning impacts.
- Aboriginal heritage impacts.
- Impacts on native plants and animals.
- Flooding impacts.

* Cost of options was not considered as part of the feasibility assessment.

From this assessment, each corridor contains preliminary route options. 25 preliminary route options will go forward for further engineering and environmental investigation.

The map shows the five strategic corridors and the 25 preliminary route options going forward.

The *Feasibility Assessment Report* is available on the project website. To discuss the results of this feasibility assessment, please contact the project team.

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For further enquiries

Chris Clark, RTA Project Manager

T 1800 633 332 | E grafftonbridge@rta.nsw.gov.au

www.rta.nsw.gov.au/grafftonbridge

Additional crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton

JUNE 2011

Background

The NSW Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) is working with the community to identify a preferred location for an additional crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton.

In December 2010, the RTA described a revised community consultation process to identify a preferred location for the additional crossing. The December 2010 community update identified 13 preliminary route options which included options previously suggested by the community.

A postal survey inviting community comment received a further 28 crossing suggestions, bringing the total of suggested locations to 41.

At community forums in March 2011, the RTA advised the 41 suggested locations would be assessed for their feasibility, to identify those options that would be further considered and investigated.

Of the 41 suggestions, feasible crossing locations have been identified in each corridor. A summary of the feasibility assessment is included in this community update. The *Feasibility Assessment Report*, June 2011, is available on the project website.

Community forum

The next community forums will be held on:

Wednesday 29 June 2011
from 6pm to 8pm

at Grafton Community Centre, Duke Street.

Thursday 30 June 2011
from 1pm to 3pm

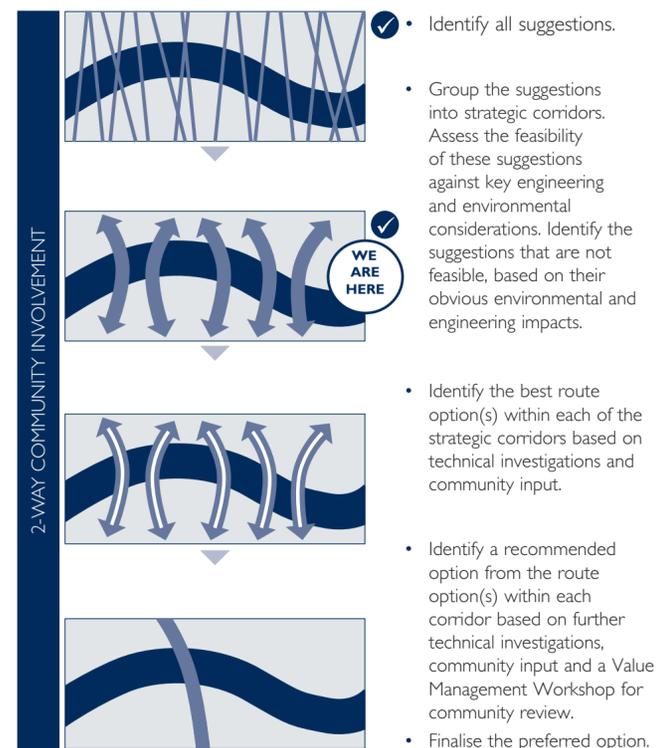
at the South Grafton District Ex-Servicemen's Club, Wharf Street.

Both forums will cover the same presentation material.

- Results of the community surveys (postal survey, telephone survey, business survey).
- Project purpose and objectives.
- Outcomes of the initial feasibility assessment.

Process to short-list community suggestions

The process to short-list the suggestions is described below. This method will deliver a preferred location whilst looking at feasible options across the whole of the Grafton area.



Staffed displays

Staffed displays will be held on **Wednesday 29 June** at:

Grafton Shopping World
From 10am to 5pm

Bi-Lo Shopping Complex,
From 10am to 12pm and 2pm to 4pm

Community surveys

Three community surveys have been undertaken to gauge the views of local residents and businesses regarding the additional crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton.

Postal survey (6 December 2010 – 8 March 2011)

437 responses were received from the postal survey that formed part of the December 2010 community update.

The *Postal Survey December 2010 to March 2011 Feedback Report*, April 2011 is on the project website or contact the project team.

Telephone survey (14 – 21 March 2011)

514 randomly selected residents from the local community were surveyed by an independent market research company, engaged by the RTA.

The *Telephone survey of Clarence Valley residents Report*, May 2011 is on the project website or contact the project team.

Business survey (14 April – 3 May 2011)

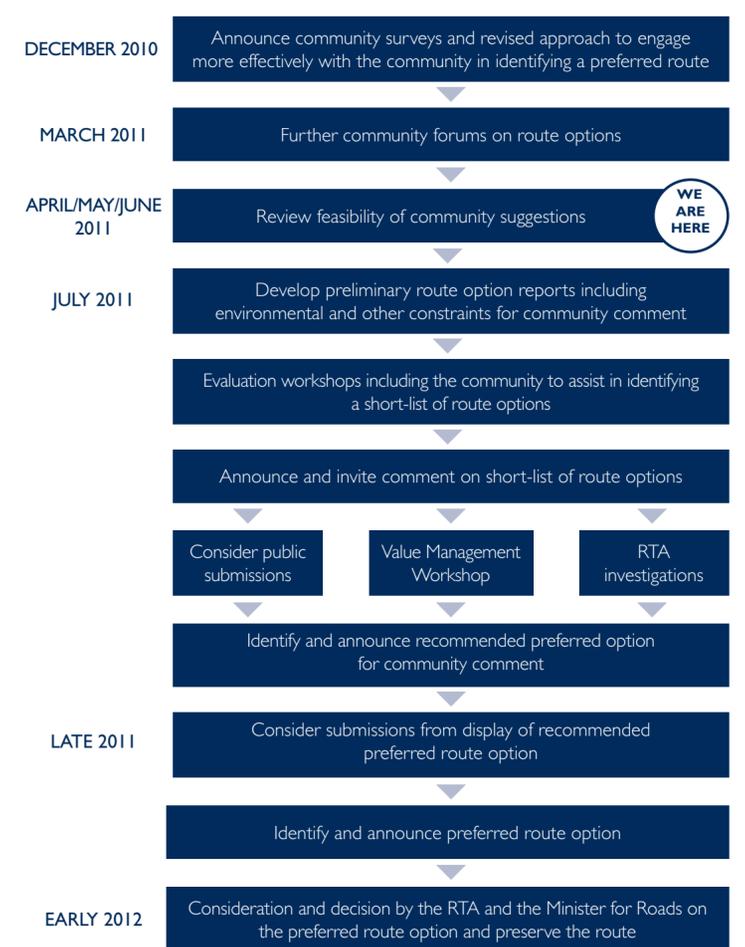
An online survey of local businesses was assisted by the Grafton Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Businesses not registered with the Chamber were also invited to participate. 104 completed surveys were received.

The *Online Business Survey Report*, June 2011 is on the project website or contact the project team.

Ongoing traffic surveys

The traffic model for the study is being refined to better predict the traffic volumes that are likely to use each of the 25 preliminary route options and what approach road drivers may take. Traffic surveys will be undertaken in the Grafton and South Grafton areas to obtain more data for the refined model.

Process to identify a preferred location



Next steps

Background papers discussing the issues to be considered when identifying a preferred location for an additional crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton are being finalised. The papers will form part of a Preliminary Route Options Report which is expected to be released in July 2011.

Following the release of the Preliminary Route Options Report, community evaluation workshops will be held to facilitate input into the short-listing of route options.