

<b>Name of meeting:</b>	Business Liaison Group (south)
<b>Location of meeting:</b>	Grafton Bridge project site office
<b>Meeting facilitator:</b>	Fulton Hogan
<b>Date:</b>	Thursday 21 March 2019 <b>Time:</b> 6pm to 7pm
<b>Attendees:</b>	Representatives of businesses on Iolanthe and Spring streets, Roads and Maritime and Fulton Hogan
<b>Subject:</b>	New Grafton Bridge project

## **MEETING MINUTES**

Janice Smith welcomed the group and summarised the outcomes from the last meeting. Apologies mentioned for Al Rowles, Max Jarvis, Brad Sheppard, Brendan Breitnauer and Victor Brady.

Alysse Reedy, Fulton Hogan Senior Engineer, provided an update on the construction of the bridge and work on Iolanthe and Spring streets.

The following table comprises the group's questions and the project team's answers.

<b>Q.</b>	<b>Since the opening of the new local access road in January, we have had feedback from southbound motorists that they are missing the right turn in to South Grafton. There's a lot of signage.</b>
<b>A.</b>	New green and white directional signs will be installed prior to Easter. These will help to identify the intersection better. The current signage on the highway for the businesses was agreed to by all businesses, if these were to be changed or removed we would have to seek all businesses agreement.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>Can we be provided with information regarding what the signs will look like?</b>
<b>A.</b>	Yes, we will email out the drawings.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>Can there be a sign with a coffee cup symbol?</b>
<b>A.</b>	Yes, one of the new signs to be installed has a coffee cup, meal and petrol bowser symbols.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>Is there a footpath on the BP side of Iolanthe Street?</b>

<b>A.</b>	Yes, there will be a 2.5 metre-wide shared user path from the BP service station through to Grafton Metal and Fabrication. This forms part of the project's shared user path linking South Grafton to Grafton. Work on this section of the shared user path is planned to start in about three weeks, weather permitting.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>When will the Charles Street / Gwydir Highway roundabout open?</b>
<b>A.</b>	We are currently developing the construction program for the new roundabout and will keep the community and businesses informed. We do have to take into consideration the opening of the new Pacific Highway between Glenugie and Tyndale because it will have an impact on traffic volumes through South Grafton.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>Will Iolanthe Street be four lanes?</b>
<b>A.</b>	Yes, there will be four lanes of traffic, two in each direction.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>Can we have some feedback on the proposal to reduce the new pavement depth?</b>
<b>A.</b>	There are still some final details to be sorted however there is in principle agreement and the depth is expected to change from 1.3 metres to 600-700mm.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>I am interested to know how businesses who have had a change to their driveways have found the impacts?</b>
<b>A.</b>	<i>A business owner provided the following answer - The parking was a little difficult and we have had some complaints but we've tried to keep our customers updated and we understand that the impact is short term.</i>
<b>Q.</b>	<b>Is the Grafton Metal and Fabrication driveway completed?</b>
<b>A.</b>	There is still a small amount of finishing work to be carried out. However the driveway is in use.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>Will the Grafton Metal and Fabrication driveway be suitable for larger trucks?</b>
<b>A.</b>	Yes.

<b>Q.</b>	<b>Is there a plan for managing traffic over the Easter period?</b>
<b>A.</b>	We can speak to Roads and Maritime Operations to see if there are any plans to manage traffic in the area. (Note following the meeting) The traffic changes that were put in place over the Christmas / New Year holidays by <i>Roads and Maritime</i> are still in place. We will review the directional signage we have in place and may increase the number of electronic message boards to help Easter holiday traffic.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>Can the driveways be temporarily re-opened for that period if they are not completed?</b>
<b>A.</b>	That could be possible. We will have discussions with individual business owners as works progress.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>Do you have a completion date for the bridge?</b>
<b>A.</b>	The bridge is on track to open to traffic this year, weather permitting.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>It's really interesting to come to these meetings and hear how the bridge is being constructed. Do you have open forums for residents of Grafton which are advertised where they can also be provided with that information?</b>
<b>A.</b>	Yes, we hold regular community information sessions at places like Grafton Shoppingworld which are promoted in our community update newsletters and on the project website. We also present to community, business and school groups when requested.
<b>Q.</b>	<b>When will you start work on the deck now that the bridge has been connected on the southern side?</b>
<b>A.</b>	We expect to start carrying out finishing works on that section of the bridge in May.
	<b>Meeting concluded at 7pm. Next meeting –TBA.</b>