

Name of meeting:	Business Liaison Group (south)
Location of meeting:	Grafton bridge project site office
Meeting facilitator:	Fulton Hogan
Date:	Wednesday, 18 October 2018 Time: 6pm to 7:30pm
Attendees:	Representatives of businesses on Iolanthe, Spring and Through streets, RMS and Fulton Hogan
Subject:	New Grafton bridge project

MEETING MINUTES

Janice Smith welcomed the group and summarised the outcomes from the last meeting. Apologies mentioned for Paul Johnson of Subway and Hamish Gray.

Aidan Thompson provided an update on upcoming work, proposed traffic staging and signage plans.

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

Q.	Why are we not able to have a left turn in at the new intersection near Bunnings when travelling northbound on the highway?
A.	The left turn in will remain at the existing intersection of the highway and Iolanthe-Spring streets. There will be signage to reinforce this. The temporary new intersection located north of Bunnings is not designed for north bound left turn under highway conditions.
Q.	What will stop drivers turning left at the new intersection?
A.	If a safe left turn cannot be provided then 'no left turn' signage will be in place.
Q.	During the Christmas period with the proposed changed traffic arrangements, will Iolanthe Street be blocked with no access?
A.	Access to Iolanthe Street during the holiday period will not be blocked. The exact arrangements are still being developed. The aim of traffic management will be to reduce the congestion at the intersection of Spring Street and Pacific Highway while ensuring motorists can safely access the businesses on Iolanthe and Spring Streets. Roads and Maritime is currently developing options to manage traffic in the holiday period. The

	<p>reason options are being developed is that the projects progress on building the new northern access to the Pacific Highway and opening the Through Street roundabout will influence these plans.</p> <p>In the coming weeks businesses will be presented with options for consideration and comment.</p>
Q.	So heading southbound on the highway, motorists won't be able to make a right turn into Iolanthe Street?
A.	This is correct once the temporary northern tie in has been implemented. For the Christmas period, this is being considered in the traffic plan and will be addressed in the options being presented.
Q.	Is all of this starting before the Christmas period? We thought it would be January?
A.	<p>We would like to start as soon as possible, with the intention to start before Christmas. We will ensure the impacts, including visual ones, will be kept to a minimum. Prior to the project shutting down for two weeks on 21 December the area will be cleaned up.</p> <p>Prior to Christmas the project will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • completing the Through St roundabout and fully opening this to traffic • targeting to complete the Through St northern tie in to the Pacific Highway • finishing works in Through St to enable more parking • commencing pavement and drainage works towards the Through Street end of Iolanthe Street. This will be fully opened up for traffic prior to the peak holiday traffic periods.
Q.	We are concerned about the busy Christmas retail period and access. What if our turnover is affected by the traffic switch?
A.	<p>The aim of the project is to reduce the impact on the community and businesses from the construction.</p> <p>The congestion at the intersection of Spring Street and the Pacific Highway in the Christmas holiday period last year was significant. Roads and Maritime is working to reduce this congestion, which will allow the businesses on Spring and Iolanthe to be accessed safely. Access to businesses will be maintained at all times in the Christmas holiday period.</p> <p>Fulton Hogan will continue to keep businesses informed of changes in traffic arrangements leading to the holiday peak period.</p>

Q.	We are concerned about traffic backing up over Christmas, so best case we would like to keep the existing intersection of the highway and Iolanthe-Spring streets as it is until January. Is this possible?
A.	This is being considered in the traffic plan and will be addressed in the options that will be presented. However, last year's Christmas holiday period showed us that changes are needed to ensure this intersection can function with heavy traffic volumes.
Q.	What is the Traffic Management Plan to prevent traffic missing the left turn in at the existing intersection?
A.	We will review all signage and options to make it as clear as possible.
Q.	When can we receive that information?
A.	In the coming weeks businesses will be presented with options for consideration and comment .
Q.	We've raised the issue of flooding at the existing intersection previously. Will the drainage work you've done so far worsen the flooding that can occur from a heavy downpour?
A.	Ultimately the drainage situation will be improved when the pump station and storm water upgrade is completed in about four months. We can't fix the flooding because that intersection is one of the lowest points in Grafton but it will be helped incrementally as the project progresses. Over the Christmas-New Year break, we have an emergency crew on-call. If flooding occurs, please call the project's 1800 number. The project will assist to reduce the flooding impacts wherever possible.
Q.	With the upcoming changed traffic arrangements, can I get sufficient notice so I can update my billboards?
A.	Yes, we will give you one months' notice prior to traffic changes being implemented.
Q.	How many segments are going up in a week?
A.	Up to two segments can be lifted into place in one day and stressing of segments occurring on alternate days when full production is in place. Work will progressively move from the southern

	<p>side of the river to the north.</p> <p>The process is expected to take seven months to complete, weather permitting, after which the temporary jetty on the southern bank of the Clarence River will be dismantled.</p> <p>.</p>
Q.	What holds them together – good glue?
A.	The segments are stressed by threading steel cable through and tightening to lock them together. A resin (like a super strength glue) is also applied to each segment to increase the holding strength.
Q.	Are you filming everything?
A.	Yes, there is a time-lapse camera in the sugar loader and another one downstream. The time-lapse footage will eventually be uploaded onto the project website.
Q.	Has the completion date changed?
A.	No, the bridge is still expected to be open to traffic by the end of 2019.
Q.	When will you get a copy of traffic management plan to us?
A.	In the coming weeks businesses will be presented with options for consideration and comment.
	Meeting concluded at 7.30pm. Next meeting to be held following changed traffic arrangements