

PROJECT MANAGERS UPDATE – MARCH 2011

On Thursday 3 March 2011 Project Director, Bob Higgins and I attended community forums held in the afternoon and evening at the Grafton Community Centre with other members of the project team. More than 110 people who attended the forums.

The forums discussed three key areas:

- Community feedback from the postal survey.
- Methodology to short list community options.
- Development and delivery of the telephone survey.

These sessions were filmed so anyone can see what was discussed. The recordings and meeting notes from these community forums will be available on this website shortly; in the meantime you can view the presentation on the public information page/community focus group minutes and presentations.

As part of community feedback from the postal survey, we received 28 suggestions for a second crossing of the Clarence River in addition to the 13 options published late last year. The presentation to the forums included a map of the 41 suggestions along with three possible methodologies on how the RTA could go about reducing the number of suggestions to identify feasible routes. A map of the community suggestions is also available on the public information page/community surveys.

Thank you for the comments received at the forums. They will provide a valuable input into consideration of feasible crossing points.

The telephone survey, as previously mentioned is planned for during the week of 14-20 March. It involves a survey of 500 randomly selected participants. Quotas will be established to gain a sample which represents the local community. The telephone survey will take around 12-15 minutes and ask participants to rank the importance of issues identified from previous consultation.

To support the residential telephone survey, a separate business survey is being planned. These surveys will help gauge the broader views of residents and businesses regarding the second river crossing.

I invite you to our next round of forums to be held on **16 March at the Community Centre, Duke St Grafton**. Sessions will once again be in the afternoon (1-3pm) or evening (6-8pm). Topics for discussion at the forums will include:

- Traffic, including the heavy vehicle study report.
- Methodology for shortlisting community suggestions.
- Project objectives.

The heavy vehicle traffic study report and a summary fact sheet, which are available on the on the [public information page](#) of this website, will provide background to these discussions.

A number of reports on investigations undertaken in 2004 and 2005 are also available on the [public information page](#) of this website. These reports provide further background information for the project.

If you require any further information or have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us to phone, email or letter.

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