

New Gunnedah bridge

Project update

Roads and Maritime Services | November 2019

The NSW Government is delivering a new bridge in Gunnedah to improve road safety and freight connectivity. Major work started in November 2018 and is expected to be completed mid-2021, weather permitting.

The new bridge will provide an unrestricted Higher Mass Limit (HML) freight route through Gunnedah and improve local traffic efficiency and road safety. The new route replaces the existing New Street level crossing, which will be permanently closed as part of this project.

Key features

The new bridge is being built west of the Gunnedah Maize Mill to link the Oxley Highway with Warrabungle Street. In addition to building a new bridge, the project includes:

- An upgrade of the Oxley Highway roundabout
- A new intersection of Warrabungle and Barber streets
- A shared path for cyclists and pedestrians.

What has happened to date

Since the start of this year a number of activities have taken place, these include:

- Finishing bridge piling work
- Completing flood mitigation work on the rail culverts
- Starting construction of bridge abutments and piers
- Relocating electricity services
- Manufactured and progressively delivered the bridge girders to a local storage yard in Gunnedah.

Upcoming activities

Over the next three months the project team will:

- Continue to build the bridge foundation, including installing headstocks
- Start to install bridge girders
- Continue work at New and Warrabungle streets
- Construct the first stage of the Oxley Highway roundabout.



Artist's impression of the new Gunnedah bridge project



Work at the roundabout looking southeast towards the Oxley Highway.

New Street work

New Street is temporarily closed to allow work to continue on the project. This is part of a staged approach to reduce impacts on the community, with the first closure between New Street and the intersection of the Oxley Highway and the railway crossing.

The roundabout works are progressing well with the earthwork complete and the storm water drainage system construction well advanced. The concrete layer will be placed in November, weather permitting.

Local businesses around the work area are still operating as normal and can be accessed via a short detour.

Following the reopening of New Street, the second stage will include a temporary closure of View Street for up to four months.

The closures will allow work on the existing roundabout to be carried out simultaneously to the bridge work, reducing the overall construction impacts on the community, with the aim to finish earlier if the weather permits.

Bridge work

Sixty girders have been produced and transported from Newcastle to Gunnedah, where they are stored in a temporary storage facility until they are lifted into place.

The girders range in length from 25 to 30 metres and weigh between 35 and 50 tonnes each.

Girders will be lifted into place using a 500 tonne mobile crane. Up to nine girders will be lifted into position during each shift.

Girders will be placed in the section of rail corridor when the trains are not operating.

Work hours

Standard work hours are from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday and from 8am to 1pm on Saturdays. We will be required to work outside of normal working hours at times, including at night from 6pm to 5am.

The opportunities to work on the new bridge over the rail line are limited when scheduled train services are running. During scheduled rail line track-work shutdowns, we may work continually throughout the day and night to reduce the overall duration of construction.

We will notify directly impacted residents and businesses with more detailed information before carrying out any night work or continuous work during rail track-work shutdowns.

What happens next

Following the reopening of New Street, View Street will be temporarily closed at the Oxley Highway intersection to allow the construction of the second stage to proceed. We will continue to keep the community informed on the timing of the proposed closure.

Following girder installation, work on the superstructure will start, which includes building the deck and associated barriers, pedestrian handrails and anti-throw screens on each side of the bridge.

The final road surface of the bridge will be asphalt.

Contact us

If you have any questions or would like more on the new Gunnedah bridge project please contact our project team:



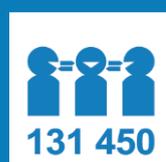
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