Transport for NSW

South Batemans Bay Link Road

Have your say
Environmental assessment and concept design

You are invited to provide feedback on the Review of Environmental Factors and concept design until Sunday 24 May 2020.
The proposal
The NSW Government has committed $30 million to connect the Princes Highway to Glenella Road, which will complete the South Batemans Bay Link Road project. The proposal includes a new roundabout on the Princes Highway. Glenella Road (formerly part of The Ridge Road) would also be upgraded as a new two lane road which connects to the Princes Highway. Eurobodalla Shire Council completed Stage 1 of the South Batemans Bay Link Road in 2019 which connects George Bass Drive to Heron Road.

Background
The Princes Highway is an important connection for regional road users and is a key commuter, recreational and commercial route. Beach Road connects with the Princes Highway just south of the Batemans Bay Bridge and is the main road to the southern coastal villages. Batemans Bay currently experiences congestion along Beach Road and in the Central Business District due to growth in the region and increased traffic during peak holiday periods. The South Batemans Bay Link Road would improve safety, improve access for the southern coastal villages and support the long term growth and development of the south coast region.

Environmental Assessment
The Review of Environmental Factors (REF) assesses the potential environmental, social and economic impacts of the proposal and provides measures to reduce these impacts. Through the environmental assessment process Transport for NSW seeks to avoid, minimise and mitigate our impact on the environment during the design, construction and operation of the project.

Aerial view of the Princes Highway looking north. The upgraded Glenella Road would connect to the Princes Highway at this location.

Enhance liveability of Batemans Bay and contribute to its attractiveness, sustainability and success.
**Concept Design of the proposal**

- **A new roundabout on the Princes Highway**
  - Northbound merge to one lane
  - Two southbound lanes through the roundabout
  - A northbound bypass lane on the Princes Highway
  - A northbound right turn lane to Glenella Road
  - Single lane entry and exit from Glenella Road

- **Upgrade to Glenella Road / The Ridge Road intersection**
  - A new two-lane road (one lane in each direction)

- **70km/h (Princes Highway)**
- **60km/h (Glenella Road)**

- **Old Sawmill Site**

- **Southbound merge to one lane**

- **LEGEND**
  - Proposal
  - Cutting
  - Embankment
  - Retaining wall
  - Shoulders

- **To Bega**
- **To Batemans Bay**
- **To Batemans Bay**
- **Glenella Road**
- **The Ridge Road**
- **Albatross Road**
- **Heron Road**
- **Cranbrook Road**
Better, safer and more reliable trips for people and business, between the Princes Highway and southern coastal villages.
**Assessment of key issues**

Key areas assessed in the REF are summarised below and the full report can be found on the project website.

**Biodiversity**

A biodiversity assessment was carried out to understand the existing environment and evaluate potential impacts. The project would result in clearing of up to 22.68 hectares of native vegetation, including:

- breeding habitat for glossy black cockatoo and sooty owl
- up to 72 hollow bearing trees.

Efforts to reduce removal of vegetation have been carried out and would continue during detailed design and construction planning.

The project would not impact any:

- threatened ecological communities, populations or flora species
- Class 1 or Class 2 watercourses
- habitat for threatened aquatic species.

Strategies to reduce impacts include:

- management measures to reduce impacts of unavoidable clearing on threatened species during construction
- investigating the use of smart street lighting
- developing a biodiversity offset strategy
- further studies to determine the need for fauna connectivity structures, such as glider poles.

**Water quality**

There are protected wetlands located around 500m from the construction boundary. The steep terrain increases the risk of impacting water quality. During construction, measures will be in place to manage risks to water quality caused by erosion, sedimentation, spills or leaks. These include:

- investigating construction and operational water quality devices during detailed design.

Once complete, the project would provide an improved road drainage system on Glenella Road.

**Heritage**

The heritage assessment included background research, field survey and consultation with the local community.

The proposal would impact on two Aboriginal sites that have been assessed as having low archaeological significance.

We would apply for an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit for these sites, and artefacts recovered would be returned to country.

**Landscape character and visual impact**

The majority of work would take place in an established road corridor however some key viewpoints may be impacted including Round Hill Lookout.

Bushfires in late 2019 and early 2020 extensively impacted the landscape surrounding the proposal.

Short term impacts have been considered in relation to proposed construction timing. Long term impacts have also been considered by assessing the impact of the proposal under a regenerated landscape, similar to pre-fire conditions.

The proposal would also:

- include a revegetation plan
- consider local landscape when selecting materials and design features
- be designed to avoid prominent trees where possible.

**Traffic and transport**

During construction, minor delays would be experienced along the Princes Highway while the roundabout is being built.

The Princes Highway would retain one lane in each direction at all times to ensure traffic is largely unaffected. Once complete, the project would improve safety and access for all road users.

**Noise**

Vehicle engines, exhausts, tyres and brakes can create traffic noise for people living near roads. Traffic and construction noise have been assessed and measures have been identified to reduce their impact on the community.

Noise studies indicate that moderate levels of noise may be experienced by some nearby residents during construction and there would be a minor increase in operational noise.

A Noise Management Plan for construction would be prepared and includes:

- specific actions to manage noise during construction
- scheduling work to minimise noise impacts
- procedures for informing nearby residents.
Have your say
To make a submission about the REF or concept design please visit nswroads.work/sbblr and complete our online feedback form or send your comments to:

Post:  Attention: South Batemans Bay Link Road Project Manager,
        PO Box 477 Wollongong
        NSW 2500

Email: southbatemansbaylinkroad
       @transport.nsw.gov.au

Submissions must be received by Sunday 24 May 2020.

Online Q&A session
Join us on Facebook Live for an online Q&A session with the project team:
Friday 8 May 2020, 12:30pm - 1pm

Follow NSW Roads for updates and event invites.

If you are unable to access Facebook please call the project team, or visit the project webpage where we will share the recorded session.

Contact us:
For more information or to contact the project team:

1800 549 159

southbatemansbaylinkroad
@transport.nsw.gov.au
nswroads.work/sbblr

South Batemans Bay Link Road
PO Box 477, Wollongong NSW 2500

Display locations
The REF and concept design can also be viewed at the following locations:

- Transport for NSW, Level 4, 90 Crown Street, Wollongong
- Batemans Bay Service NSW, 341 Orient Street, Batemans Bay
- Moruya Service NSW, Unit 12/22 Ford Street, Moruya.

Next steps
Transport for NSW will collate and consider the submissions received during the public display of the REF and prepare a submissions report.

Feedback received will help further refine the design of the South Batemans Bay Link Road and we will keep the community updated as the project progresses.

Have your say
Improve traffic flow in the Batemans Bay town centre

improve safety and reduce the severity of crashes