Waterfall Way is located in northern New South Wales and is considered one of the most scenic routes in the state. It extends 170 kilometres from the Pacific Highway at Raleigh to the New England Highway at Armidale.

The NSW Government is funding vital road and safety improvements along the Waterfall Way. This community update provides information on current and planned activities along the route.

**In this update**

- Improving Waterfall Way
- A new roundabout for the Dorrigo town centre
- Ongoing maintenance
Improving Waterfall Way

The NSW Government is providing $50 million to upgrade sections of Waterfall Way with the aim of improving safety, reliability and travel times, and addressing safety for pedestrians and traffic in the Dorrigo town centre.

Transport for NSW will deliver projects that provide formal overtaking opportunities between the Pacific Highway and Bellingen, as well as passing opportunities on the Dorrigo Mountain. Further passing opportunities west of Dorrigo will also be investigated for future work should additional funding become available.

We will widen the median and road shoulders in sections between the Pacific Highway and Bellingen and explore opportunities to provide better flood protection. A formal roundabout will be built around the cenotaph in the Dorrigo town centre to improve traffic movement and safety.

Some of the work will be informed by the 2014 Road Safety Review and 2017 Draft Corridor Strategy, both of which included extensive community consultation. Details on the upgrades to Waterfall Way between Dorrigo and the Pacific Highway will be provided to the community for feedback early in 2020, noting that consultation on the roundabout will occur separately.

Dorrigo roundabout

Transport for NSW is working with the Bellingen Shire Council on the design of a formal roundabout to go around the cenotaph at the intersection of Waterfall Way (Cudgery Street) and Hickory Street in Dorrigo.

The roundabout will provide significant safety improvements for all road users including pedestrians, cyclists, mobility scooter users and motorists in the Dorrigo town centre. The project will be built by Council and contractors, and will take about four months to complete, weather permitting.

Pedestrian safety is one of our biggest considerations and we will install a barrier between the footpath and the road in at least one location. This barrier will provide separation between pedestrians and vehicles for the safety of all road users.

We recognise the historic and cultural value of the cenotaph and will work around it during construction. It will retain its prominence in the centre of the street at the completion of the work. We also recognise the importance of the cenotaph to the successful commemoration of Anzac Day services. As a result of discussions with the Bellingen Shire Council and the RSL, we will avoid any construction activities around the cenotaph until after Anzac Day to ensure there is no disruption to services.

Extensive services are installed underground near the cenotaph and our designers, in consultation with Council, have developed plans to ensure these are not interrupted during construction.

Work will also be needed on the feeder roads into the new roundabout. These currently slope in different directions and work is required to ensure they meet the roundabout at similar levels.
Waterfall Way projects

Recently completed work

- Rebuilding and widening the shoulders on an 800-metre section of road about six kilometres east of Bellingen.
- Safety improvements at Hamels Hill, 20 kilometres east of Armidale.

Work underway

- Realigning and widening the road pavement near the intersection with Dome Road, east of Dorrigo. This work is expected to continue until late March.
- Rebuilding and realigning the road at the Crystal Falls culvert on the Dorrigo Mountain.
- Improving slope stability at the current single lane restriction about 10 kilometres east of Dorrigo. This work is expected to take about five months. Traffic lights at the site will be removed when the work is complete.

Work planned

- Rebuilding, widening and realigning a section of road near the intersection with Little North Arm Road, west of Thora.
- Building a formal roundabout in the Dorrigo town centre.

Contact us

For more information about the improvements to Waterfall Way, please contact the project team by:

- (02) 6640 1331
- grafton.regional.office@transport.nsw.gov.au

If you’d like to receive updates on the project, email your interest to Grafton.Regional.Office@transport.nsw.gov.au

If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on (02) 6640 1331.

Ongoing maintenance work

Transport for NSW continues to maintain Waterfall Way by carrying out improvements to slope stability on Dorrigo Mountain between Bellingen and Dorrigo, as well as improving the road pavement at various locations along the corridor. This work forms part of the ongoing state road maintenance program.

Improving the stability of slopes on Waterfall Way provides safety and reliability benefits for road users.

Ongoing maintenance forms part of state road policy