

Waterfall Way Community Update

September 2015

The NSW Government is continuing to fund delivery of vital road improvements along Waterfall Way. This community update provides information on current activities along Waterfall Way between the Pacific Highway and Dorrigo.

Current road projects

Bellingen high pedestrian activity area

Bellingen Shire Council has been working to finalise the Main Street plan for Bellingen. Roads and Maritime has been helping Council and will continue to work with Council to finalise this plan.



The Main Street plan captures a number of positive ideas to improve the visual appearance and pedestrian safety in the main business area of Bellingen. The plan is available from Council's website, (www.bellingen.nsw.gov.au) or the Roads and Maritime website at www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects (Waterfall Way)

Heavy Vehicle Action Plan

Roads and Maritime continues to monitor truck movements along Waterfall Way as part of the Nambucca Heads to Urunga Pacific Highway upgrade project.

The peak period for haulage is expected to be in December 2015 with a gradual decline in truck volumes after that time, weather permitting.

Heavy vehicle inspectors continue to monitor truck movements on Waterfall Way.

Sweedmans Lane road upgrade, Stage 1

On behalf of Roads and Maritime, Bellingen Shire Council is improving the road surface and alignment of Waterfall Way near Fernmount. The project, known as Sweedmans Lane Stage 1, will bring significant road safety improvements to the area.

Stage 1 is expected to be completed by the end of 2015, weather permitting. Detailed design is nearing completion for Stage 2, located west of Stage 1.

Landslip – Dorrigo Mountain

Roads and Maritime continue to stabilise the slope near the Maynards Plains Road intersection, five kilometres east of Dorrigo. The work involves installation of rock bolts and mesh to stabilise the slope and improve road safety.

The westbound lane closure will remain in place until this important work is complete. Traffic control will manage safety and guide motorists around the work site.

Newell Falls rest area

Bellingen Shire Council will be carrying out kerb and gutter work near to and within the Newell Falls rest area over the coming months.

Road Safety review update

Last year Roads and Maritime released a road safety review report on the Waterfall Way in response to community concern about the increase in truck movements from local quarries.

The safety review examined the 40-kilometre section of Waterfall Way that stretches from the Pacific Highway to Dorrigo. The review investigated areas of concern and identified potential improvements or actions that could be progressed should funding become available.

Roads and Maritime has achieved twenty-two of the recommendations, with the most significant being:

- Improving safety at Myers Bluff and Gordonville Cutting
- Continuation of heavy vehicle monitoring and a strategy to work with NSW Police to carry out joint operations
- Completion of the Pacific Highway, Nambucca Heads and Urunga Action Plan, that is showing how it is managing project truck movements
- Installation new signage at Fernmount and Maynards Plain Road
- Installation of two new vehicle activated signs

- Installation of additional give-way signage on Dorrigo Mountain.

Roads and Maritime continue to investigate the remaining recommendations, focusing on:

- Developing a strategy to address guide signs, including street name signs and advance intersection signs
- Completing speed zone reviews from the Pacific Highway to Fernmount, including Fernmount and between Thora and Dorrigo
- Liaising with Transport for NSW to arrange bus companies to install reflective tape on the back of buses to improve visibility
- Considering formal 'pull over' areas on Dorrigo mountain when rehabilitation work is planned to enable slow moving vehicles to pull over and allow other vehicles to pass
- Investigating the possibility of additional speed advisory signs on Dorrigo mountain.

Upcoming road improvements

Roads and Maritime has prioritised sections of Waterfall Way for resealing and heavy patching to be undertaken over the next 12 months.

Bellingen Shire Council will be carrying out this work throughout the year and the community will be kept informed of possible impacts to traffic.

For more information

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

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More information is also available at rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects (Waterfall Way)