Additional crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton

Six options are short-listed in the work to identify a preferred option for an additional crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton. This update shows the short-listed options and describes the next steps for the project.

Roads and Maritime Services, RMS (formerly Roads and Traffic Authority) is working with the community to identify a preferred location for an additional crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton.

There are six route options within the five strategic corridors that will go forward for further investigation.

Community comment, a community and stakeholder workshop (November 2011), and technical investigations helped to identify the short-list of options.

The short-listed options are shown in the map overleaf:

- Cowan Street South Grafton to Villiers Street, Grafton.
- New bridge parallel to and immediately upstream of the existing bridge connecting Bent Street, South Grafton and Fitzroy Street, Grafton.
- Junction of Pacific Highway and Gwydir Highway, South Grafton to Pound Street, Grafton.
- Existing Pacific Highway north of South Grafton to Fry Street, Grafton.
- Existing Pacific Highway north of South Grafton to North Street Grafton via Kirchner Street.
- Existing Pacific Highway north of South Grafton to Summerland Way north of Grafton, via Kirchner Street.

RMS does not have a preferred option for the additional crossing.

Those property owners potentially directly affected by the six short-listed options are being contacted directly. If you have any questions or concerns please get in touch with the project team, contact details are on the back page.

Chris Clark
Project Manager
Five of the options short-listed for further investigation (Options E, A, 11, 14 and 15) are those options recommended by the November 2011 community and stakeholder evaluation workshop.

Two options in Corridor 2

Option A in Corridor 2 would connect to the same intersections in the road network in both Grafton and South Grafton as the existing bridge.

Option C in Corridor 2 would connect to different intersections in the road network (compared to the existing bridge). Option C could provide better traffic distribution and flexibility than Option A.

Both the community recommended Option A and Option C in Corridor 2 are short-listed for further investigation.

The Aboriginal community has advised that Option C would be more acceptable if realigned closer to the existing bridge, due to potential impact on an area of cultural significance. This will be investigated as part of refining the options that have been short-listed.
Options 14 and 15 both connect to the existing Pacific Highway at the junction with Centenary Drive and cross the Clarence River at the same location to run along Kirchner Street to a new junction with the northern end of Kirchner Street. North of the junction:

- Option 14 connects into North Street.
- Option 15 continues through to the Summerland Way.

Option 15 between the junction with Prince Street and the Summerland Way could be a future extension of Option 14.

**KEY**

- Options short-listed for further investigation
- Link to CBD - Road upgraded for heavy vehicle access. Prince Street - options 14 and 15
- Existing 25/26m long B-double routes
- Corridor 1 (Upstream of the existing bridge)
- Corridor 2 (Adjacent to the existing bridge)
- Corridor 3 (Downstream of the existing bridge)
- Corridor 4 (Pacific Highway - North Street connections)
- Corridor 5 (Pacific Highway connections, north of North Street - Summerland Way)

**NOTE:** All options connect to the 25/26m long B-Double route at each end.
Field investigations

Field investigations will be undertaken on the short-listed options including:

- Survey work.
- Geotechnical investigations.
- Flora and fauna studies.
- Traffic surveys.
- Examination of Aboriginal and/or non-Aboriginal heritage.

The project team will need to access properties to do this.

A letter of request with further details will be sent to the owners of properties proposed for use in the investigations.

For more information on field investigations please view the fact sheets available on the Grafton Bridge project website www.rta.nsw.gov.au/graftonbridge.

Process from here

Technical and environmental investigations will provide more information on the short-listed options. The investigations will be described in the Route Options Development Report (RODR).

The report will be displayed for community comment. Community comments, the investigations undertaken and the outcomes of the value management workshop will input to a decision on a recommended preferred option in 2012.

Your feedback on the recommended preferred option will be considered before a decision is made on the preferred option for an additional crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton.

Community involvement will continue. The process to identify a recommended preferred option for an additional crossing is shown in the flowchart below.

Contact the project team:

Phone: 1800 633 332 (toll free)
Email: graftonbridge@rta.nsw.gov.au
Write to: Chris Clark RMS Project Manager
PO Box 546 Grafton NSW 2460

Or visit the shop front at the Pacific Highway office for more information at 21 Prince Street, Grafton (opposite Westpac Bank), Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30pm.

To find out where the nearest display location is near you visit the project website www.rta.nsw.gov.au/graftonbridge.

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January 2012  RMS/Pub 11.040