

MAY 2015

Proposed Albion Park Rail bypass - flood focus group meeting

The third flood focus group meeting for the proposed Albion Park Rail bypass was held on Monday 18 May 2015 at the Centenary Hall, Albion Park.

Summary

At this meeting the key points from meeting two were recapped. This included:

- providing a clearer presentation of results for each catchment
- what design criteria is used
- blockage
- placement of fill in the floodplain.

See the presentation for more details.

Results for each catchment were presented in breakout sessions. This involved the group breaking up into three smaller groups and moving around the room. A detailed presentation and analysis was given by the project team on:

- Macquarie Rivulet catchment
- Duck Creek catchment
- Horsley Creek catchment.

For each catchment the presentation and discussion included:

- A time lapse video from the flood model showing how a flood occurs in the catchment now.
- A time lapse video from the flood model showing how a flood would occur after the motorway is built.
- Interactive mapping showing existing flood extents and impacts for each catchment
- Interactive mapping showing the changes to flooding for each catchment in a 1 and 20 year and 1 in 100 year flood event after the motorway is built

- Changes to flooding after the motorway is built with future land use changes and climate change factored in.

An example of the information shown from the interactive maps is saved under project documents.

This smaller group format gave community representatives a better opportunity to ask questions, understand the complex information being presented and provide feedback.

The larger group came back together after the three breakout sessions to discuss key issues and talk about next steps.

Next steps were outlined by Roads and Maritime. These included:

- Shellharbour City Council, Wollongong City Council and Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) have been asked to review and provide feedback on the project Flood Assessment Report. This is expected to take a couple of months
- Feedback from councils and OEH on the Report will be discussed at our next Flood Focus Group meeting.
- An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is being prepared
- The EIS is expected to be exhibited in late 2015 when further community feedback will be sought

We expect to have the next Flood Focus Group meeting in around September before the EIS display.

Two questions were taken on notice at the meeting for Shellharbour City Council. The questions and council's response are below.

Question: Has Shellharbour City Council recently provided updated flood information in relation to the Albion Park Rail bypass to insurance companies who may have used it to increase insurance costs for residents in the area?

Answer: Shellharbour City Council has not recently provided any new flood information. Council has recently entered into arrangements to ensure that, through the Insurance Council of Australia, insurance companies have access to Council adopted flood studies, all of which are freely available for the public to download in full on [council's website](#). It is important to note that insurers approach policy pricing in different ways and Council has no input into how they use the available flood information to calculate premiums.

Question: What is Shellharbour City Council's responsibility regarding upgrading culverts in Albion Park where flow paths are affected by the Albion Park Rail bypass? Does council have any plans to upgrade any of the culverts due to the construction of the bypass?

Answer: Council will not be upgrading drainage infrastructure as a direct result of works associated with the Albion Park Rail bypass. Council will be working closely with Roads and Maritime to ensure that impacts on flooding and flood risk as a result of the bypass will be managed accordingly. Council also work closely with Roads and Maritime on Flood Studies and

Floodplain Risk Management Studies and Plans to identify viable options available to help mitigate the existing flood risk.

A glossary of flooding definitions was provided to the group.