

New Dubbo Bridge

Review of Environmental Factors (REF) Submissions Report and changes to the project design

February 2020



An artist's impression of the New Dubbo Bridge

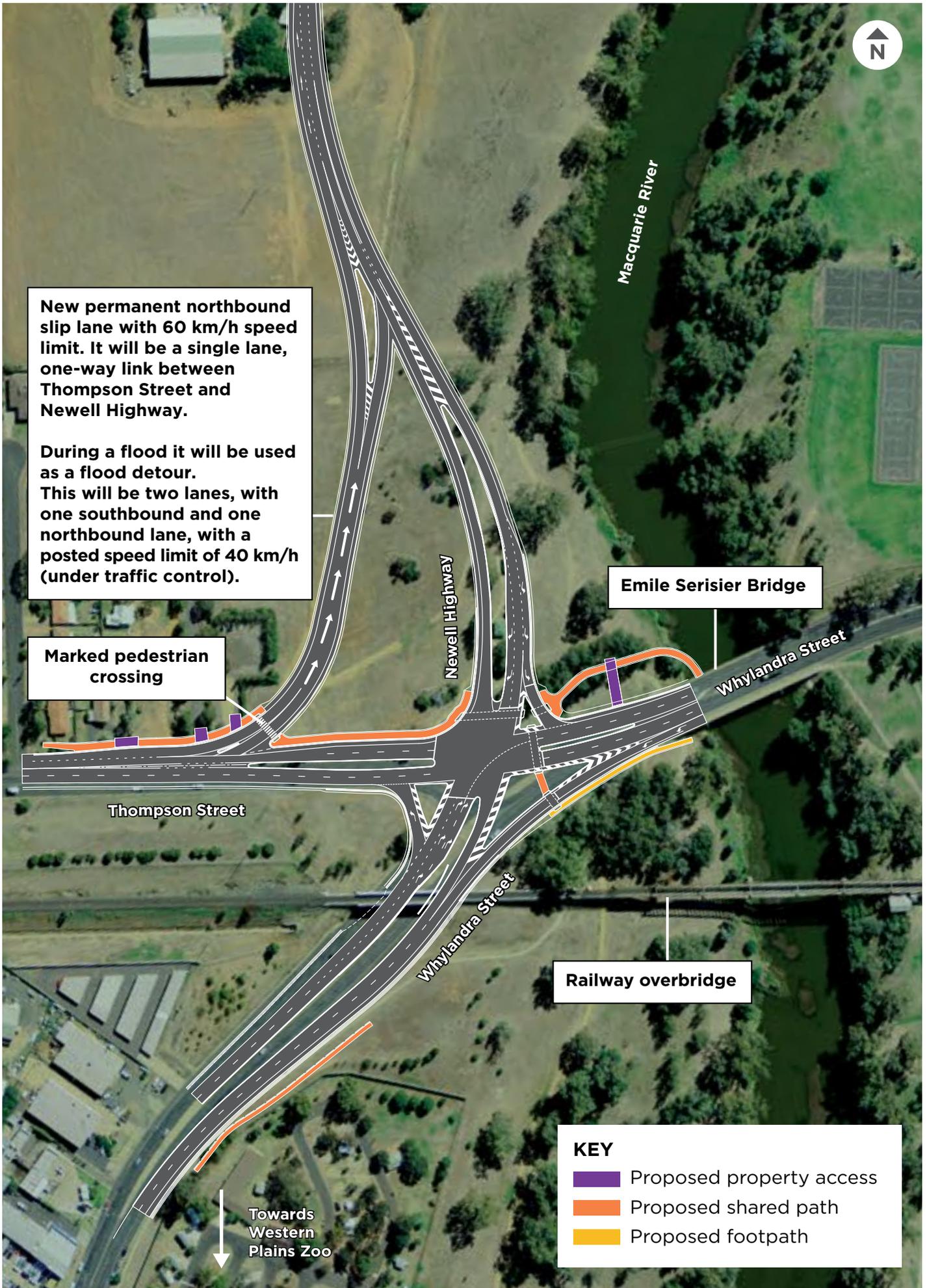
The NSW Government is moving ahead with the development of the New Dubbo Bridge project over the Macquarie River in Dubbo. Transport for NSW has now finalised the Submissions Report for the New Dubbo Bridge Review of Environmental Factors (REF), and has made changes to the concept design in response to community and stakeholder feedback.

Background

From Monday 27 May 2019 until Friday 28 June 2019, Transport invited community and stakeholder submissions for the New Dubbo Bridge Review of Environmental Factors (REF) and concept design, as part of the Building a better Dubbo program. Transport for NSW received

310 responses with constructive and insightful feedback about a range of issues. A Submissions Report has been finalised and includes a summary of the comments made during the public display and Transport for NSW's responses. The Submissions Report is now available on the project website.

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The Submissions Report and REF Determination

The Review of Environmental Factors (REF) assesses the potential social and environmental impacts of the project and identifies ways to minimise these impacts. The REF for the New Dubbo Bridge at River Street was displayed for community comment between 27 May and 28 June 2019.

A summary of the suggestions, issues and concerns raised in submissions to the New Dubbo Bridge project and Transport for NSW's responses is provided in the New Dubbo Bridge REF Submissions Report.

All feedback received during the display period, including opposition to the River Street Bridge proposal, was assessed during the submissions process. This feedback was assessed against the outcomes of earlier community engagement carried out for the proposal, as well as technical studies. This information and analysis was considered during the finalisation of the Submissions Report and determination of the REF. The REF for the New Dubbo Bridge has now been determined.

The determination of the REF is the confirmation that the project meets all environmental requirements. The determination allows Transport for NSW to continue the planning for the River Street Bridge project, including starting the detailed design.

Transport for NSW will continue to consult with the community and stakeholders before and during the construction phase, which is expected to start in 2022.

The REF investigated the following key issues for the project:



Traffic and transport



Socio-economic



Noise and vibration



Landscape character and visual



Biodiversity



Other Impacts

Changes to the project

In response to submissions and as part of further design development since the display of the REF, changes to the REF proposal have been made. The key changes include:

- The flood bypass between Thompson Street and the new main alignment has been changed to a permanent northbound slip lane, with a posted speed limit of 60 km/h. During non-flood periods, it will operate as a single lane, one-way link between Thompson Street and the Newell Highway. During flood events when the Thompson Street/Whylandra Street intersection is flooded, it will operate as a flood detour. The flood detour will be two lanes, with one southbound and one northbound lane, with a posted speed limit of 40 km/h (under traffic control).
- Addition of a line-marked pedestrian crossing on the northbound slip lane with kerb ramps to allow pedestrians to cross safely.
- Increasing the posted speed limit from 60km/h to 70km/h from north of the merging lane of the northbound slip lane to west of the New Dubbo Bridge on the approach to the River Street/Bourke Street intersection.
- Extension of the southern footpath on River Street to Brisbane Street and connection to the existing pedestrian facilities about 400 metres south of River Street.
- The one-metre centre line has been removed, resulting in an overall width reduction of the new main alignment and the New Dubbo Bridge.

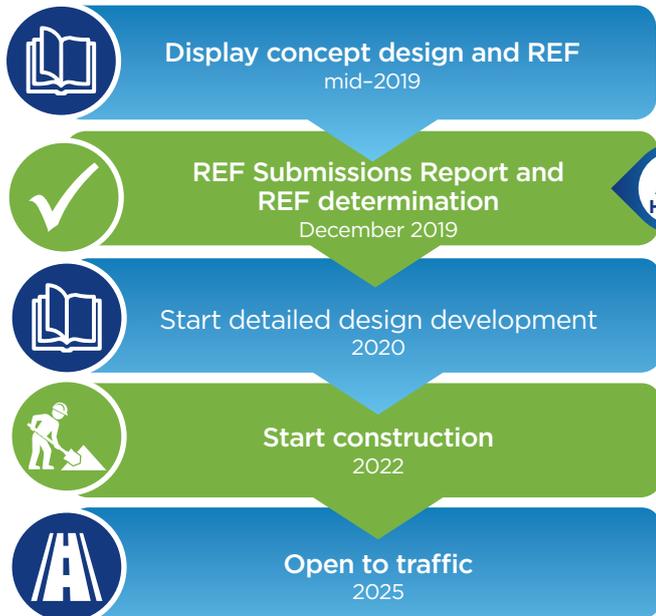
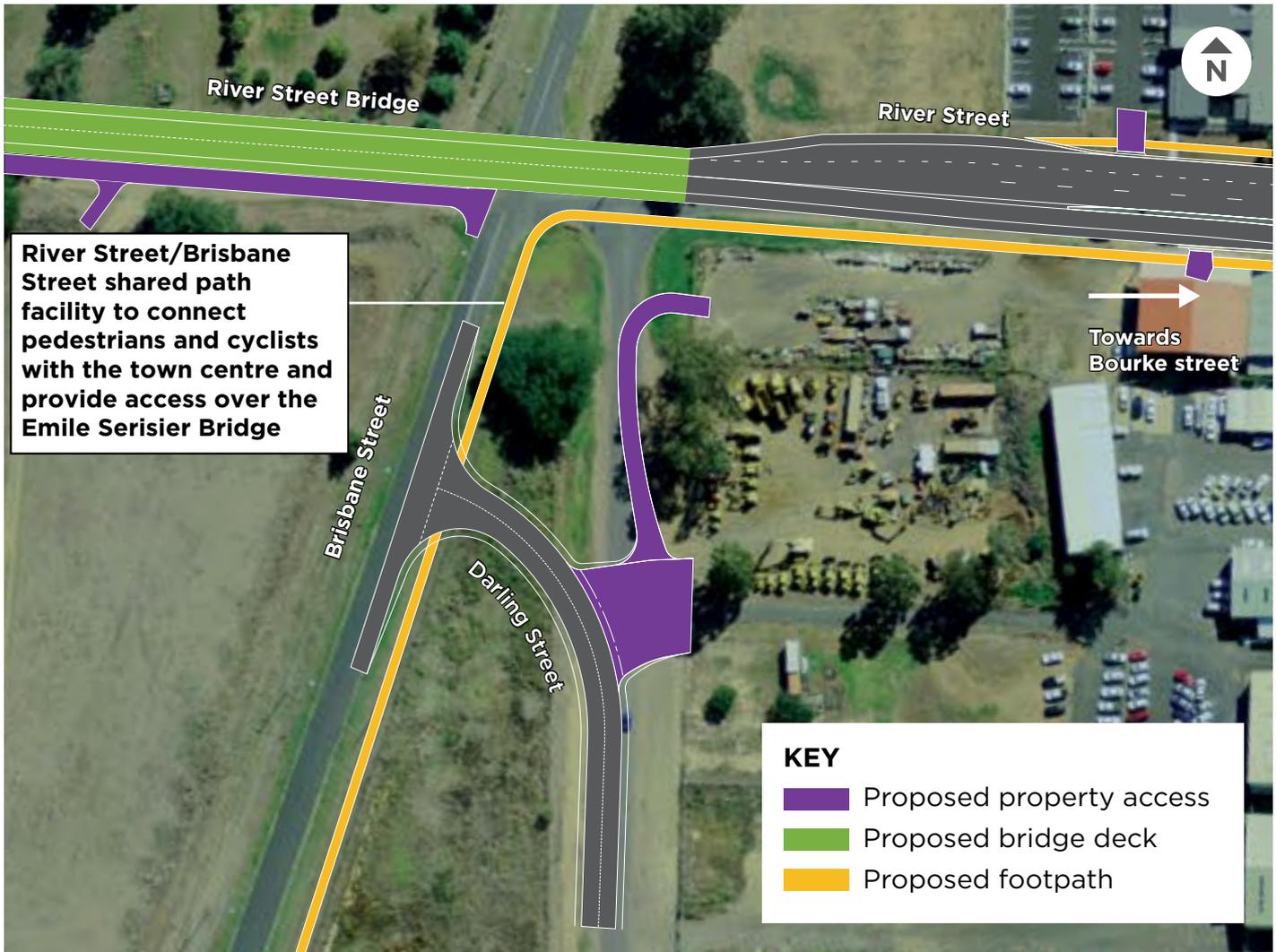
Community Consultation

Transport for NSW has endeavoured to proactively engage with the community throughout the process and seek feedback on the project design to ensure that the New Dubbo Bridge delivers for the community of Dubbo. The 2019 Building a better Dubbo Community Consultation Report detailing consultation activities undertaken during the display period and the 2016/17 Community Consultation report detailing consultation undertaken to determine the preferred option is now available on the project webpage, nswroads.work/dubbo



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Contact us

If you have any questions or would like more information on Dubbo road projects please contact our project team:

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