

NOVEMBER 2013



Duplication of Tourle Street and Cormorant Road, Kooragang

Roads and Maritime Services is planning for the future upgrade of Tourle Street and Cormorant Road at Kooragang to improve traffic flow and cater for future traffic growth. This community update seeks comment on the preferred option.

Roads and Maritime has identified the preferred option for the 3.8 kilometre duplication of Tourle Street and Cormorant Road.

This community update contains information on the preferred option, which involves providing two lanes in each direction and improved on-road cyclist facilities.

The community is invited to comment on the proposal by 6 December 2013. Feedback will be considered by Roads and Maritime in finalising the design.

Background

Kooragang Island is home to a major industrial and employment centre in NSW and is part of the world's largest coal export port.

Tourle Street and Cormorant Road form the main corridor connecting Kooragang Island to Newcastle and the southern section of the Port of Newcastle. The road is also the main transport corridor connecting Newcastle with Newcastle Airport and

Port Stephens. About 33,000 vehicles use the corridor each day, including more than 3000 heavy vehicles.

Roads and Maritime is planning an upgrade of the corridor to improve traffic flow and cater for the predicted increase in traffic movements due to future urban development in Port Stephens, the expansion of Newcastle Airport and growth of industrial development on Kooragang Island.

Tourle Street Bridge was replaced in 2009 due to structural issues and to improve the heavy vehicle loading capacity of the bridge. The new bridge was built as the first stage of providing four continuous travel lanes between Industrial Drive at Mayfield West and Fern Bay. Duplication will ensure the corridor has sufficient capacity to accommodate current and projected traffic volumes.

The NSW Government has allocated \$3 million this financial year to allow planning for this important upgrade to continue.

Benefits

The proposed upgrade would:

- Cater for predicted traffic growth as a result of future development within the Port of Newcastle
- Improve arterial road access to/from Newcastle Airport and Port Stephens to cater for predicted increases in commercial, industrial and domestic traffic
- Improve road safety for through and local traffic as well as catering for cyclists
- Improve traffic flow and travel times for motorists.

Key considerations

The preferred option considers a range of local constraints and issues identified through environmental and engineering studies carried out by Roads and Maritime. These issues include:

- Environmental significance of the Long Pond on the northern side of Cormorant Road
- Maintaining access to existing businesses along the corridor
- Future industrial development on Kooragang Island next to the existing road
- Use of the route by cyclists, including three cycling clubs on Kooragang Island.

Next steps

Roads and Maritime is seeking feedback from the community and stakeholders, which will be considered in finalising the design.

The next step will be to progress the concept design and environmental impact assessment. There is no timeframe for construction at this time.



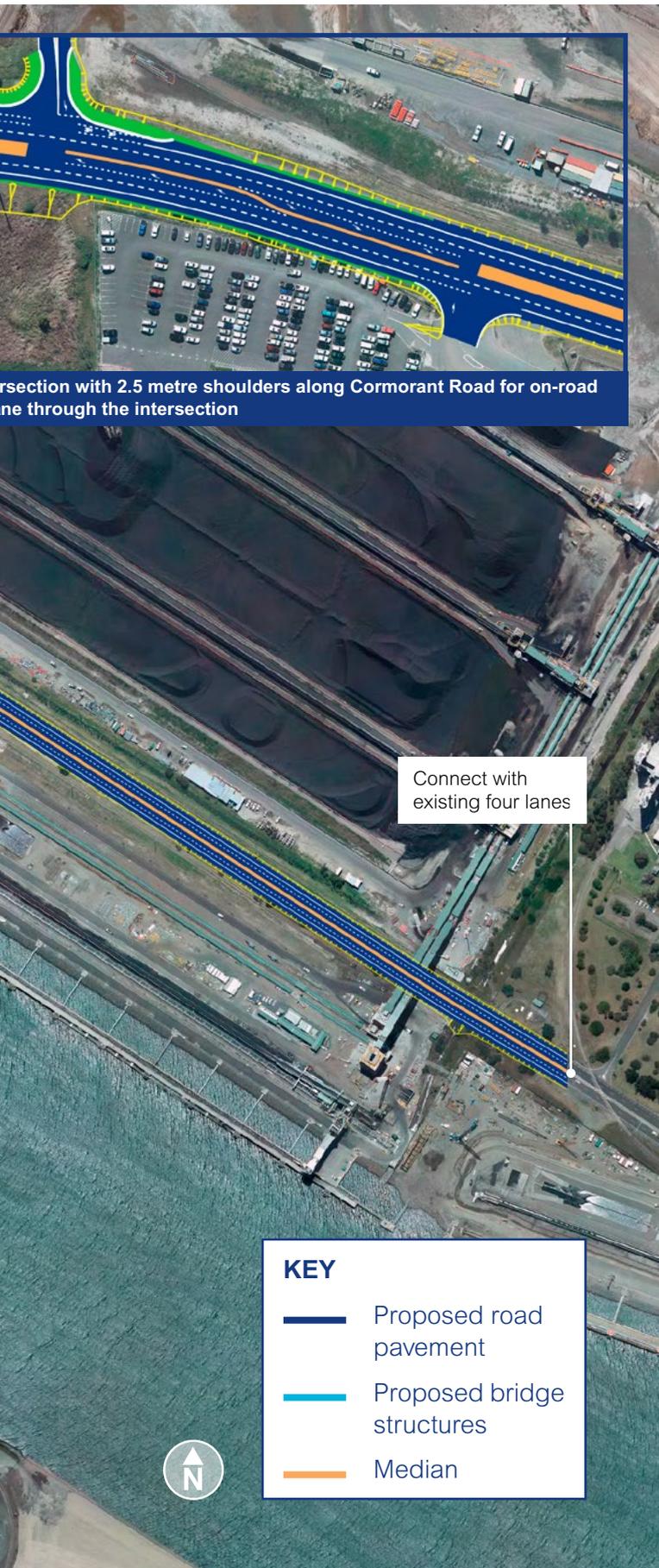
The Long Pond on the northern side of Cormorant Road, Kooragang.

Duplication of Tourle Street and Cormorant Road, Kooragang Preferred Option





Access arrangements maintained at interchanges for cyclists as well as an eastbound cycle lane



Preferred option

Roads and Maritime has identified a preferred road alignment which provides the best overall balance between environmental, social and technical considerations.

The preferred option:

- Duplicates 3.8 kilometres of the road between Industrial Drive, Mayfield West and Egret Street, Kooragang to provide two lanes in each direction
- Includes a new two lane bridge on the western side of the existing bridge
- Provides wider 2.5 metre shoulders along Cormorant Road to cater for on-road cyclists
- Minimises impact on the Long Pond by predominantly widening the road on the southern side of the existing Cormorant Road
- Maintains access to existing businesses along the corridor
- Caters for future industrial development on Kooragang Island next to the existing road.

Visit a display

The information outlined in this community update is now on display. You may collect a community update or view the display until 6 December 2013 at the following locations, Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm:

- **Roads and Maritime Services Regional Office**
59 Darby Street, Newcastle
- **Nelson Bay Motor Registry**
30 Yacaaba Street, Nelson Bay
- **Port Stephens Council**
116 Adelaide Street, Raymond Terrace
- **Newcastle City Council**
282 King Street, Newcastle

Copies of the community update are also available at the Stockton Library in King Street, Stockton. The Library is open Tuesday and Thursday from 9.30am to 5pm and Wednesday and Saturday from 9.30am to 12pm.

Your comments are invited by 6 December 2013

A plan of the preferred option is included in this update. Your comments are invited and will be considered in finalising the design of the preferred option. Comments will be received until 6 December 2013.

Please send us feedback by:

Phone: 02 4924 0646 during business hours

Email: Matthew.Mate@rms.nsw.gov.au

Mail: Matthew Mate

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For more information

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