



Transport
Roads & Maritime
Services

RIVERSTONE RAILWAY CROSSING

Community Consultation Report

AUGUST 2014

Executive Summary

Project detail

Over the past 20 years, Government agencies have examined numerous options to remove the Garfield Road railway level crossing. The removal of the level crossing aims to increase the efficiency of traffic flow in the area as well as effectively serve public transport. In October 2012, Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) announced Garfield Road (Option 8) as the preferred option for the removal of the level crossing at Riverstone. The Garfield Road option involves providing a new four lane road overpass on the existing alignment of Garfield Road.

Following this announcement, and a subsequent Ministerial commitment to identify any additional options that were equal to or exceed that of the announced preferred option, Roads and Maritime in coordination with a stakeholder group comprising the Department of Planning and Environment, Blacktown City Council and TfNSW, reviewed all options that had been considered for the Riverstone railway crossing. This resulted in two additional options being identified for further consideration (Options 12 and 5).

Community consultation

From December 2013 to February 2014, Roads and Maritime invited the community to provide feedback on the three short-listed options for the replacement of the Riverstone railway crossing. These overpass options were:

- Option 8 – Garfield Road (four lanes)
- Option 12 – Castlereagh Street (four lanes)
- Option 5 – Loftus Street (four lanes) and Garfield Road (two lanes).

The objectives of the community consultation process were to:

- Inform the community on the status of the project
- Seek and consider the community's comments, feedback, ideas and suggestions
- Build a database of interested community members whom Roads and Maritime could continue to engage with during the development of the project.

Community response

Roads and Maritime has considered all the submissions received about the removal of the Garfield Road level crossing and its replacement options. More than 250 responses were received from the community and stakeholders.

The general response from the community included:

- 140 submissions about Option 8 (Garfield Road)
- 126 submissions about Option 12 (Castlereagh Street)
- 72 submissions about Option 5 (Loftus Street)
- 57 submissions requesting the exploration of alternate options.

Alongside community comments made regarding the options, the community raised a number of key concerns associated with the project including heavy vehicles travelling through the Riverstone town centre, community amenity, loss of business, impacts on the school, and property acquisition requirements around the options.

The next steps

Roads and Maritime wants to provide the community with the most effective solution that increases the efficiency of traffic flow and effectively serves public transport in the area while allowing for traffic and population increases as a result of the North West Growth Centre.

Based on community feedback opposing options in the Riverstone town centre, Roads and Maritime is carrying out further traffic analysis of future road network requirements for the Riverstone area and the whole North West Growth Centre to further evaluate the needs of the existing and predicted increases in population and traffic volumes.

Roads and Maritime will involve the Department of Planning and Environment, Transport for NSW, Blacktown City Council, and Hawkesbury City Council to consider the results of the traffic analysis in selecting the preferred option.

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

In 1995, the NSW Government announced a program to replace railway level crossings in western and south western Sydney, including the crossing at Garfield Road, Riverstone.

To address safety and road efficiency across the railway line, Government agencies have examined numerous options for the Riverstone railway crossing over the past 20 years. Significant population increase is forecast in the North West Growth Centre (NWGC) which will result in greater traffic volumes. The road network crossings of the Richmond Rail Line need to accommodate these traffic volumes and facilitate the removal of the Riverstone railway level crossing.

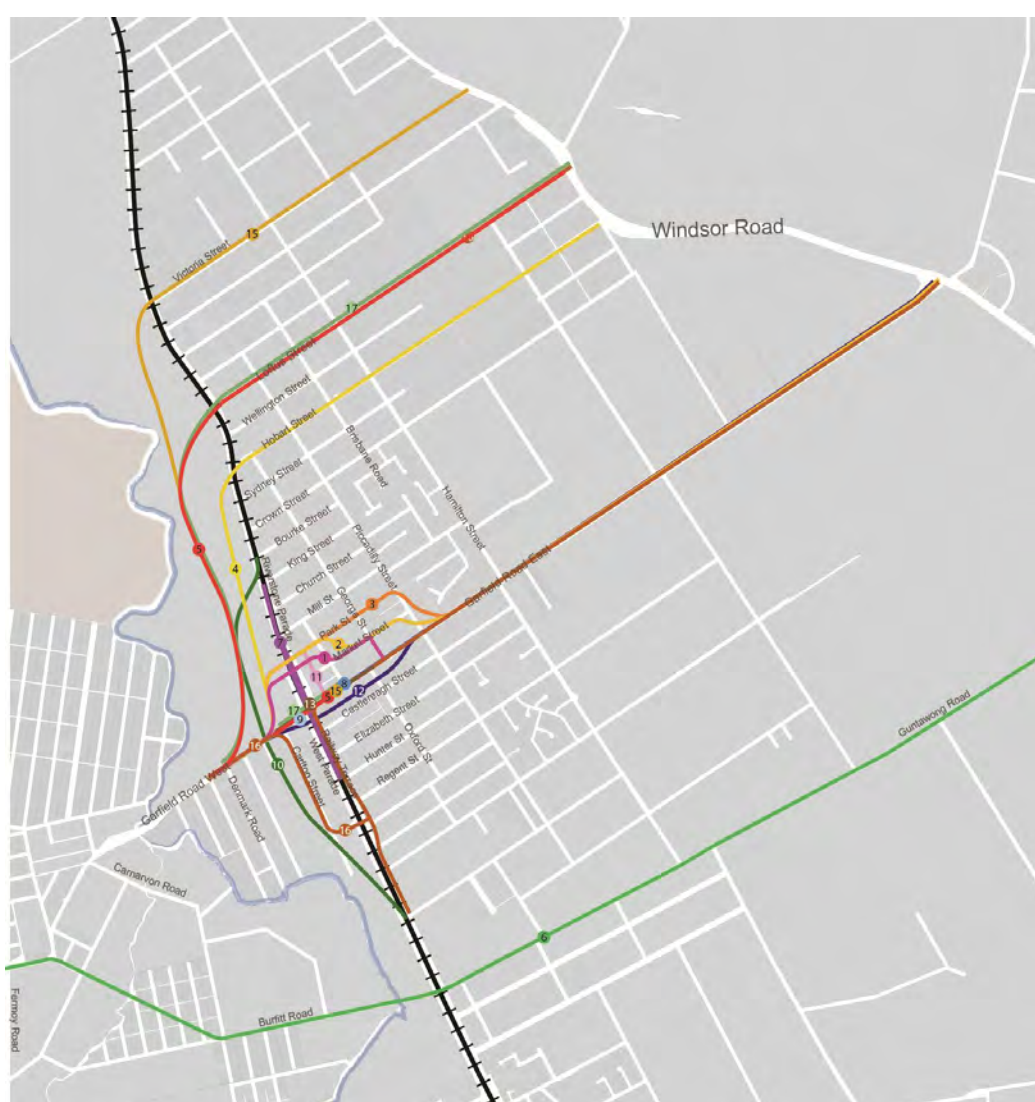


Figure 1: Map of all options considered for the Riverstone Railway Crossing as at November 2013

Finding an appropriate solution for the new crossing has been an ongoing discussion. There is no simple answer to this problem and any option chosen will change the Riverstone town centre and its surrounds. It is important to note all of the options include the removal of the existing level crossing.

Transport for New South Wales (TfNSW) analysed the various studies undertaken by Roads and Maritime and in October 2012 announced a Garfield Road four lane bridge overpass (Option 8) as the preferred option.

Following this announcement, Blacktown City Council made representations to the Minister for Roads requesting consideration of alternate options. This resulted in a commitment from the Minister to review all options for the overpass that demonstrate transport and cost outcomes that were equal to or exceeded the announced preferred option.

Roads and Maritime progressed this commitment with a review of all existing options as shown in Figure 1 (page 5), in coordination with a stakeholder group that included the Department of Planning and Environment, Blacktown City Council and TfNSW. The objective of this review was to identify if there were any options that could equal or exceed the outcomes of the Garfield Road option.

The review identified the following two additional options:

- Option 5 – Loftus Street (four lanes) and Garfield Road (two lanes)
- Option 12 – Castlereagh Street (four lanes)

Following this review, Roads and Maritime identified both the Garfield Road and Castlereagh Street options as viable. The review also identified the Loftus Street option as unviable due its dependence on the Riverstone West development and the significantly higher cost and environmental and heritage impacts. The Community Consultation Report issued in November 2013 provides further details of the analysis undertaken. The November 2013 Community Consultation Report also summarised all options since the projects beginning in the mid-1990s.

All three options were presented to the Community from 29 November 2013 to 28 February 2014 for comment. The location of these options is shown on Figure 2 and detailed below:

- Option 8 – Garfield Road (four lane)
- Option 12 – Castlereagh Street (four lane)
- Option 5 – Loftus Street (four lane) and Garfield Road (two lane).



Figure 2: Shortlisted options presented to the community as at November 2013

1.2 Purpose of report

The purpose of this Community Consultation Report is to summarise the feedback received on the Riverstone Railway Crossing from December 2013 to February 2014.

This Community Consultation Report provides information about:

- The community consultation approach and objectives
- An overview of responses received from community groups, individuals, local residents and local businesses
- Key comments raised by the community
- Responses, actions and next steps.

2.0 Consultation Approach

2.1 Consultation objectives

Roads and Maritime initially undertook consultation on the removal of the Riverstone railway level crossing from 29 November 2013 to 7 February 2014. This period was then extended to 28 February 2014 to provide more time to obtain further community feedback. The purpose of the community consultation process was to:

- Inform the community on the status of the project
- Seek and consider the community's comments, feedback, ideas and suggestions
- Build a database of interested and concerned community members that Roads and Maritime could continue to engage with during the development of the project.

2.2 How consultation was done

Roads and Maritime informed the community of the consultation period and provided channels for feedback. Community members were encouraged to provide their feedback, leave comments and make submissions at the information sessions or via mail, email or phone contact with the project team.

The consultation tools included:

Local media
Newspaper advertisements

The consultation, display centres and community information sessions were advertised in:

- Blacktown Advocate on 2 and 9 December 2013.
- Blacktown City Sun on 2 and 9 December 2013
- Hawkesbury Gazette on 2 and 9 December 2013.

Additional community information sessions were advertised in:

- Blacktown Advocate on 3 February 2014
- Blacktown City Sun on 3 February 2014
- Hawkesbury Gazette on 3 February 2014.

Community update newsletter

Community updates were published and distributed twice. The first announced the start of consultation and the second announced the new closing date and additional information sessions.

The community updates were distributed to more than 8,000 residents and businesses within the broader Riverstone community and were published on the Roads and Maritime website.

Webpage

The project webpage included a community update; information on the community information sessions/static displays; 3D animation of the options; and the November 2013 consultation report (project summary report).

Information sessions	<p>A total of five information sessions were held during the consultation period on the viable options for Riverstone. An open invitation was extended to the local community to attend the community information sessions at the Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre. The first information sessions were held on 12 and 14 December 2013. Additional information sessions were then held on the 11, 13 and 15 February 2014.</p> <p>The information sessions provided local residents with the opportunity to speak with the project team and provide comments on a preferred option and the two short listed options for a railway overpass at Riverstone.</p>
Static poster display	<p>Unstaffed static displays were placed in the local Riverstone Library and the Blacktown City Council office for the duration of the consultation period.</p>
Stakeholder briefings	<p>Roads and Maritime held meetings with several key stakeholders about the shortlisted options and potential impacts.</p> <p>Directly affected property and business owners were doorknocked in December 2013 when the consultation started.</p> <p>Blacktown City Council hosted a public meeting on Sunday, 9 February 2014. Roads and Maritime staff assisted discussion with the community of which around 500 people attended.</p>

During the consultation, the overall response received by Roads and Maritime included:

- 75 feedback forms
- More than 180 emails
- 566 unique views of the project web page
- 157 unique downloads of the community update
- 40 unique downloads of the Consultation Report (November 2013) from the Roads and Maritime website
- Approximately 200 people who attended the community information sessions.
- Approximately 500 people who attended the public meeting hosted by Blacktown City Council.

3.0 Consultation Summary

3.1 Overview

Roads and Maritime received more than 250 responses on the proposal from local residents, commuters, business operators, organisations or pedestrians.

Community groups that gave feedback included:

- Riverstone Overpass Steering Committee
- Berkshire Park, Llandilo and Shanes Park Community Action Group
- St John Church (including a petition).

3.2 Feedback summary

The majority of comments were based on the presented preferred options of:

- Option 8 – Garfield Road (four lane)
- Option 12 – Castlereagh Street (four lane)
- Option 5 – Loftus Street (four lane) and Garfield Road (two lane).

Table 1 shows the number of community responses related to each option that Roads and Maritime presented to the community. Table 1 also summarises the key comments raised in relation to these options.

- 140 submissions were related to Option 8 (Garfield Road).
- 126 submissions were related to Option 12 (Castlereagh Street).
- There were 72 submissions related to Option 5 (Loftus Street) and 57 submissions requesting the exploration of alternate options.
- Victoria Street was an option suggested separately by a Blacktown City Councillor but was not presented in the Roads and Maritime consultation material. However, Roads and Maritime received 49 responses about this option in alternative configurations including a Victoria Street option without an overpass on Garfield Road.

Table 1: Feedback summary about the project options.

Corridor alignment	Number of related comments	Issues/comment raised
Garfield Road	140 comments	Impact on business located on Loftus Street would make the Garfield Road option preferable.
		Change of community amenity through the division of the town centre. This includes visual impact and safety concerns.
		Required property acquisitions and resulting loss of businesses within the town centre along Garfield Road.
		Heavy vehicles through the town centre of Riverstone by the Garfield Road overpass.
Castlereagh Street	126 comments	Less impact on Garfield Road businesses than Garfield Road option.
		Change of community amenity through the division of the town centre of Riverstone by a Castlereagh Street overpass. This includes visual impact concerns.
		Property concerns including acquisition, extent of land take and impact on land value.
		Heavy vehicles through a residential area.

Corridor alignment	Number of related comments	Issues/comment raised
Loftus Street	72 comments	This option would limit impact on Riverstone town centre by not dividing town and the local businesses on Garfield Road.
		Loftus Street option is preferable for diverting heavy vehicles away from the town centre.
		Impact on the Loftus Street businesses affecting property acquisitions and business operations.
Victoria Street (Including option without a Garfield Road overpass)	49 comments	Victoria Street option is preferable as it would limit property acquisitions and loss of local businesses on Garfield Road and Loftus Street.
		Victoria Street option with no overpass on Garfield Road would limit impact on Riverstone town centre.
Alternative options	57 comments	Alternative options need investigating, as current preferred option causes impacts on the Riverstone town centre and community amenity.
		Heavy vehicle movements should avoid the town centre and residential areas.
		Current options result in acquisition and loss of local businesses.

3.3 Garfield Road

Roads and Maritime received 140 submissions regarding the Garfield Road option. Where people indicated that they were against the Garfield Road option, the key points raised included heavy vehicles, change of community amenity, division of Riverstone, property acquisition, and loss of business along Garfield Road. Submissions that supported the Garfield Road option identified concerns about the impact on Loftus Street businesses and acquisition concerns. These key points and their distribution are captured in Figure 3 and in Table 2 (page 12).

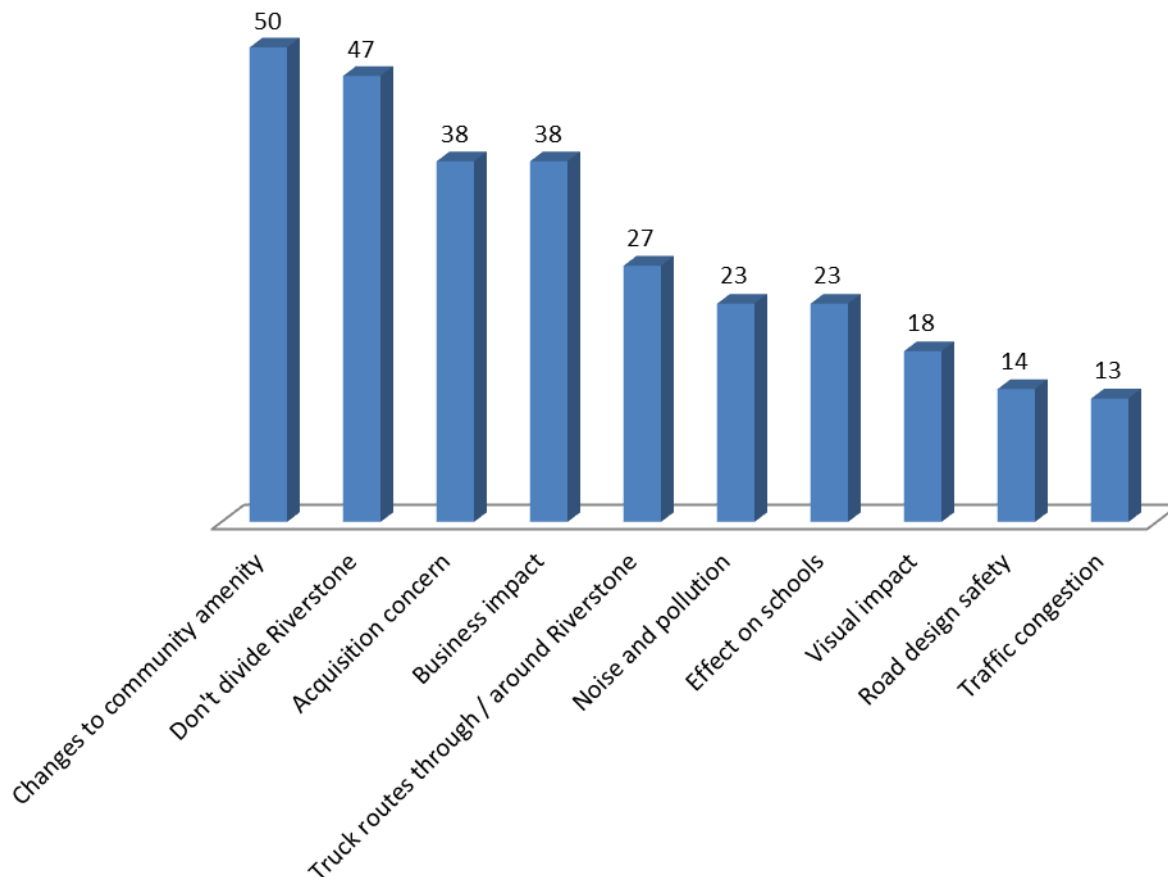


Figure 3: Key points highlighted in feedback received about the Garfield Road option.

Table 2: Feedback summary about the Garfield Road option.

Project options	Number of related comments	Issues/comments raised
Changes to community amenity	50 comments	Community amenity would be reduced as the Garfield Road overpass would create a physical and visual barrier along the road. The town centre (Garfield Road) would be directly impacted either through businesses moving or frontage now looking at the overpass.

Project options	Number of related comments	Issues/comments raised
Don't divide Riverstone	47 comments	The structure of the Garfield Road overpass would create a physical and visual barrier along Garfield Road. This would make it hard to navigate across.
Acquisition concern	38 comments	Property acquisition along Garfield Road would be required to allow for the overpass to be constructed.
Business impact	38 comments	The required property acquisition along Garfield Road would result in a loss of businesses within the town centre. The reduction in amenity in the town centre would also drive away business.
Truck routes through / around Riverstone	27 comments	Heavy vehicles would drive through the town centre of Riverstone using the Garfield Road overpass and impact on amenity.
Noise and pollution	23 comments	The Garfield Road overpass would bring more traffic and heavy vehicles to the town centre, increasing noise and pollution to surrounding residential areas.
Effects on schools	23 comments	School children would find it hard to navigate across Garfield Road to attend school.
Visual impact	18 comments	The Garfield Road overpass would change the view of the main road to an overpass structure that would be visible several streets back.
Road design safety	14 comments	The Garfield Road overpass would create safety issues due to the road design.
Traffic congestion	13 comments	The Garfield Road overpass would limit traffic movement across Garfield Road and cause traffic congestion issues.

3.4 Castlereagh Street

Roads and Maritime received 126 submissions relating to the Castlereagh Street option. Where people indicated that they were against the Castlereagh Street option, the key comments raised included the change of community amenity, division of Riverstone, property acquisition, extent of land take, impact on land value, road safety, and visual impact. Submissions that supported the Castlereagh Street option identified potential impacts of the Garfield Road option on businesses located within Riverstone. These key points and their distribution are captured in Figure 4 and Table 3 (page 14).

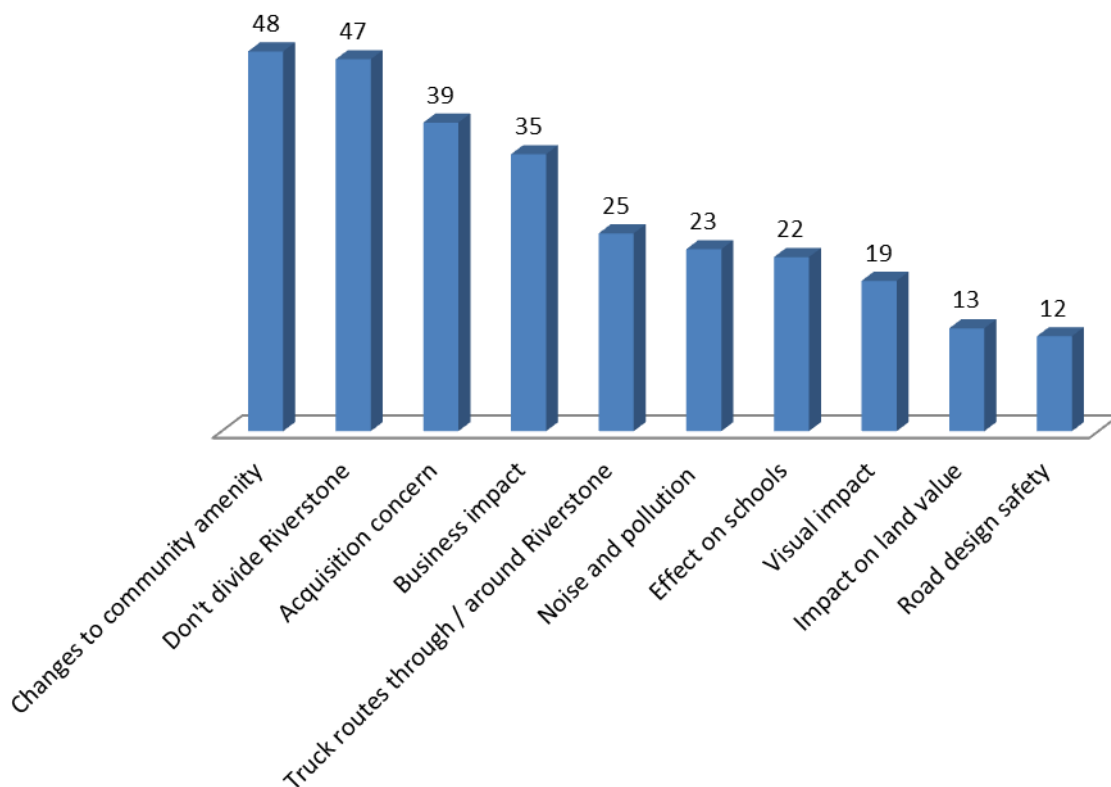


Figure 4: Key points highlighted in feedback received about the Castlereagh Street option

Table 3: Feedback summary about the Castlereagh Street option.

Project options	Number of related comments	Issues/comments raised
Changes to community amenity	48 comments	Community amenity would be reduced as the Castlereagh Street overpass would create a physical and visual barrier along the street. Both the Castlereagh Street (residential) and Garfield Road (main business) would have the overpass as part of its streetscape.
Don't divide Riverstone	47 comments	The structure of the overpass would create a physical and visual barrier along Castlereagh Street. This would make it hard to navigate across.

Project options	Number of related comments	Issues/comments raised
Acquisition concern	39 comments	The Castlereagh Street overpass would require acquisition of residential properties which would impact on residents that have lived in Riverstone for generations.
Business impact	35 comments	Diversion of traffic away from Garfield Road would reduce business in the town centre.
Truck routes through / around Riverstone	25 comments	Heavy vehicles would drive through a residential area of Riverstone using the Castlereagh Street overpass impacting on amenity.
Noise and pollution	23 comments	The Castlereagh Street overpass would bring more traffic and heavy vehicles to a residential area, increasing noise and pollution to surrounding neighbourhood.
Effects on schools	22 comments	School children would find it hard to navigate across Castlereagh Street to attend school.
Visual impact	19 comments	The Castlereagh Street overpass would change the view of a residential street to an overpass structure that would be visible several streets back and also would directly impact backyards.
Impact on land value	13 comments	The Castlereagh Street overpass would impact on the land value of adjacent properties due to impact to amenity.
Road design safety	12 comments	The Castlereagh Street overpass would create safety issues due to the road design.

3.5 Loftus Street

A number of submissions (72) referred to the Loftus Street option. Where people indicated support for the Loftus Street option, the key comments raised included exploring alternative options, the division of Riverstone, the change of community amenity, and property acquisition. Submissions that were made against the Loftus Street option included comments about the impact on Loftus Street businesses, property acquisitions and loss of businesses. These key points and their distribution are captured in Figure 5 and Table 4 (page 16).

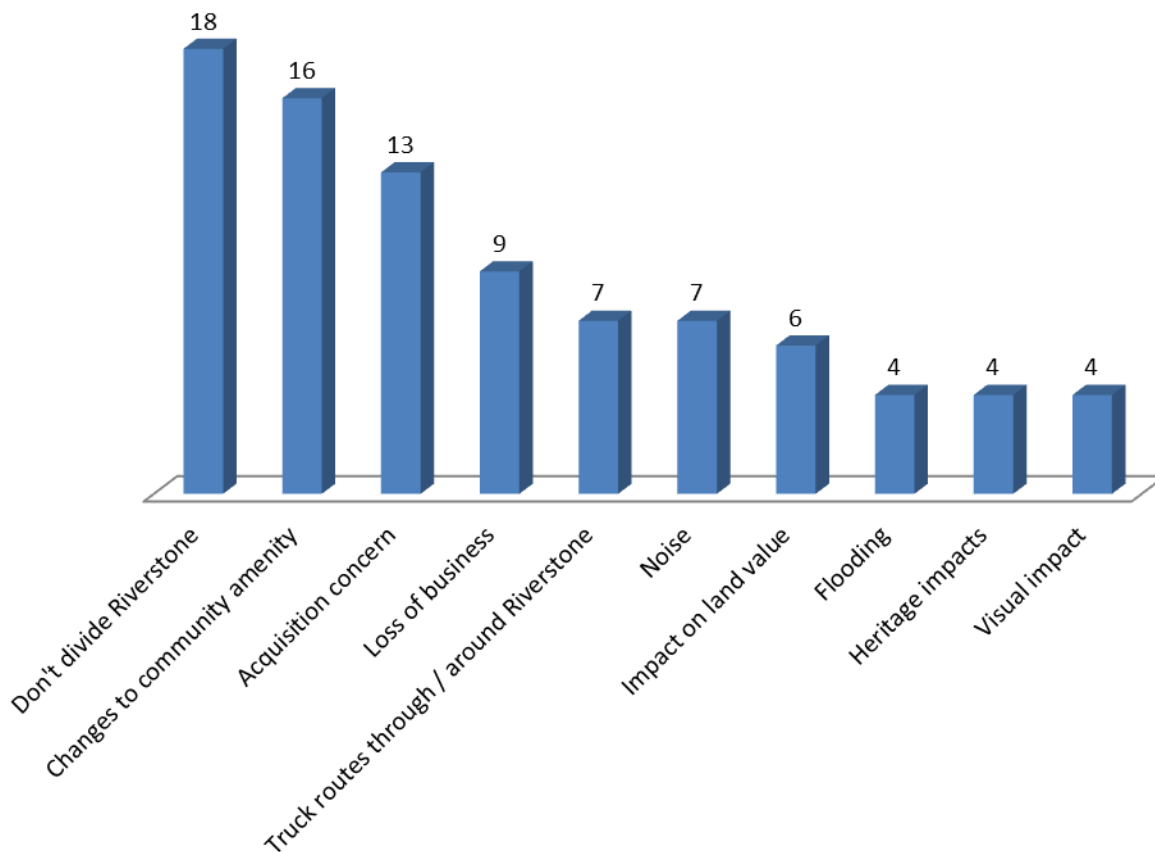


Figure 5: Key points highlighted in feedback about the Loftus Street option.

Table 4: Feedback summary about the Loftus Street option.

Project options	Number of related comments	Issues/comments raised
Don't divide Riverstone	18 comments	The alternative options of the Garfield Road or Castlereagh Street overpasses would have a larger impact than the Loftus Street option on the town centre's amenity and access.

Project options	Number of related comments	Issues/comments raised
Changes to community amenity	16 comments	The alternative options of the Garfield Road or Castlereagh Street overpasses would have a larger impact than the Loftus Street option on the community amenity. This is due to the large scale of the alternative overpasses which would create a physical and visual barrier along the road.
Acquisition concern	13 comments	While property acquisitions would be required for the Loftus Street overpass, the impact of the Garfield Road and Castlereagh Street overpasses would require a greater amount of property acquisitions to allow an overpass to be constructed.
Loss of business	9 comments	While there potentially would be an impact on the Loftus Street businesses from the Loftus Street overpass, it would be less than the potential impact on businesses on Garfield Road from the Garfield Road overpass.
Truck routes through / around Riverstone	7 comments	Heavy vehicle traffic would be diverted to Loftus Street away from the town centre but may impact on businesses along Loftus Street.
Noise	7 comments	There would be less noise impact in the town centre and residential area from the Loftus Street overpass than the Garfield Road or Castlereagh Street overpasses.
Impact on land value	6 comments	There would be fewer properties affected by land value impacts from the Loftus Street overpass than the Garfield Road or Castlereagh Street overpasses.

Project options	Number of related comments	Issues/comments raised
Flooding	4 comments	While the Loftus Street overpass is preferred over the other options, it would require building on a flood plain which already floods in light rain. Building on the flood plain would also be destructive to the local natural environment and may change the hydrology of the site.
Heritage impacts	4 comments	While the Loftus Street overpass is preferred over the other options, it may impact on Aboriginal heritage sites.
Visual impact	4 comments	While all the options would have a visual impact, the Loftus Street overpass has the least visual impact compared with the Garfield Road and Castlereagh Street overpasses due to the location and scale.

3.6 Victoria Street

While Victoria Street was not presented in the consultation material, a number of submissions (49) were received supporting this option. Where people indicated support for the Victoria Street option, the key points raised included less property acquisition, community amenity, no need to divide Riverstone and reduced loss of local businesses. A number of submissions were also made regarding support for a Victoria Street option without an overpass on Garfield Road. Submissions that were made indicated this preference included comments about the division of Riverstone, changes to community amenity and impact on schools. These key points and their distribution are captured in Figure 6 and Table 5 (page 19).

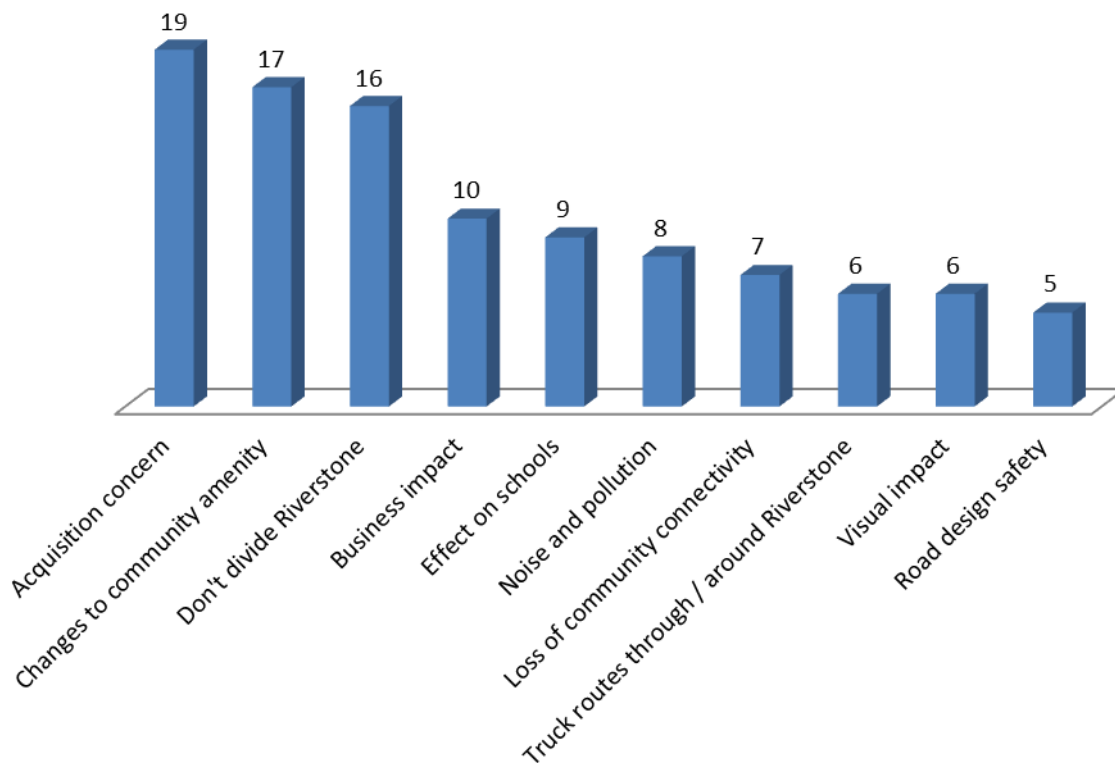


Figure 6: Key points highlighted in feedback about the Victoria Street option.

Table 5: Feedback summary about the Victoria Street options.

Project options	Number of related comments	Issues/comments raised
Acquisition concern	19 comments	Victoria Street overpass would have a smaller property acquisition effect than the Garfield Road, Loftus Street and Castlereagh Street overpasses. If no overpass is constructed on Garfield Road, no properties would be affected within the town centre.
Changes to community amenity	17 comments	Victoria Street overpass would limit impact on the Riverstone town centre and would divert heavy traffic away from Garfield Road and residential areas.

Project options	Number of related comments	Issues/comments raised
Don't divide Riverstone	16 comments	Victoria Street overpass would allow the four lane overpass to be built away from the town centre and residential area and let Riverstone remain intact.
Business impact	10 comments	Victoria Street overpass would reduce property acquisition on Loftus Street and Garfield Road to allow businesses to remain intact. Only some business properties along Victoria Street would be impacted.
Effects on schools	9 comments	Victoria Street overpass would allow Riverstone to remain intact and divert heavy traffic away from the town centre allowing school children to walk to school.
Noise and pollution	8 comments	Victoria Street overpass would allow Riverstone to remain intact and divert heavy traffic away from town centre and residential area. This would mean a reduction in noise and pollution compared to other options presented.
Loss of community connectivity	7 comments	Victoria Street overpass would allow Riverstone to retain its town centre and community connectivity.
Truck routes through / around Riverstone	6 comments	Victoria Street overpass would divert heavy traffic away from the town centre and residential areas.
Visual impact	6 comments	The visual impact of the Victoria Street option would be less than the Garfield Road and Castlereagh Street overpasses due to its location away from the town centre.
Road design safety	5 comments	Victoria Street overpass would provide a safe road design as it is located away from pedestrian activities.

3.7 Alternative Options

A number of submissions (57) received requested alternative options be investigated beyond the three shortlisted options presented by Roads and Maritime. These submissions raised key points that the options presented would create changes to the community amenity, divide Riverstone, truck routes through and around Riverstone, acquisition and loss of business. These key points and distribution can be found in Figure 7 and Table 6 (page 21).

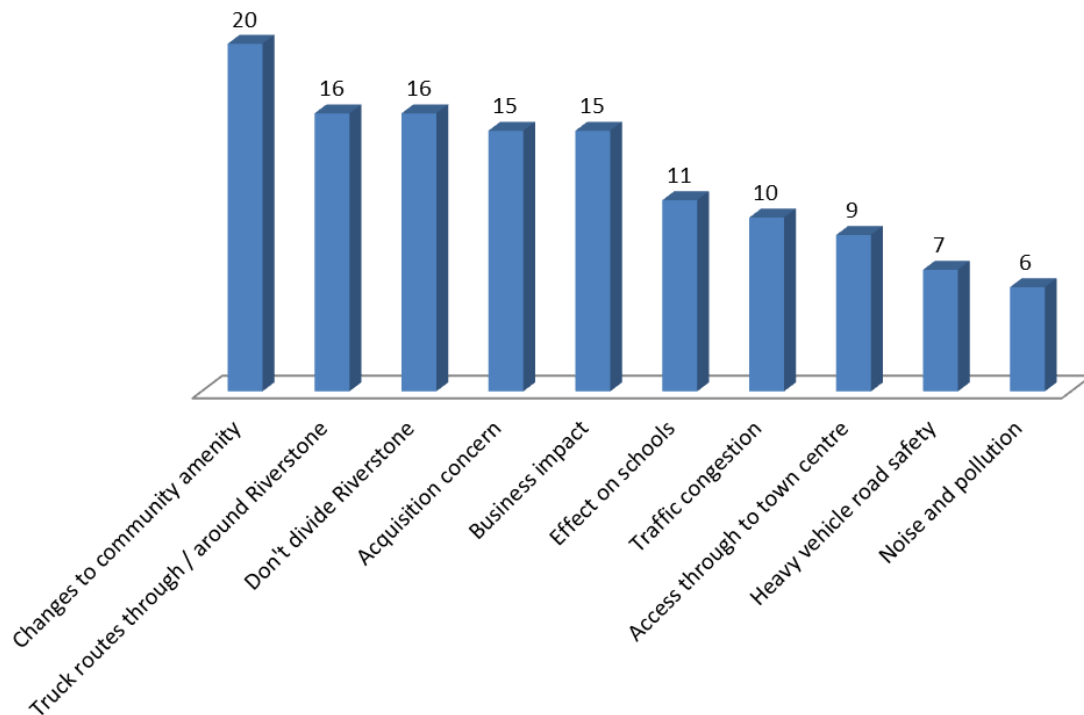


Figure 7: Key points highlighted in feedback that also indicated support for alternative options.

Table 6: Feedback summary in support of investigation of alternative options.

Project options	Number of related comments	Issues/comments raised
Changes to community amenity	20 comments	Community amenity would be heavily impacted with the construction of Garfield Road or Castlereagh Street overpasses.
Truck routes through / around Riverstone	16 comments	The construction of Garfield Road or Castlereagh Street overpasses would bring heavy vehicles through the town centre and residential areas. The Loftus Street overpass would bring heavy vehicles down Loftus Street impacting on businesses.

Project options	Number of related comments	Issues/comments raised
Don't divide Riverstone	16 comments	The construction of Garfield Road or Castlereagh Street overpasses would create a physical and visual barrier within the town centre and adjacent residential area.
Acquisition concern	15 comments	The Garfield Road, Castlereagh Street or Loftus Street overpasses would require either business or residential property acquisition. This directly impacts on long standing businesses and residents of the area.
Business impact	15 comments	Businesses along Garfield Road and Loftus Street would be impacted by property acquisition. Businesses along Garfield Road would be impacted by a reduction in passing trade.
Effect on schools	11 comments	The Garfield Road or Castlereagh Street overpasses would create a physical barrier and safety issues for children attending schools.
Traffic congestion	10 comments	Garfield Road or Castlereagh Street overpasses would bring heavy vehicles and traffic into the town centre and residential area. During construction there would also be a disruption to traffic.
Access through to town centre	9 comments	Garfield Road or Castlereagh Street overpasses would divide the town centre and impact the local access to the town centre.
Heavy vehicle road safety	7 comments	Garfield Road and Castlereagh Street overpasses would direct heavy traffic into the town centre and residential area which may create safety issues for pedestrians and private vehicles.

Project options	Number of related comments	Issues/comments raised
Noise and pollution	6 comments	Garfield Road or Castlereagh Street overpasses would bring noise and pollution into the town centre and residential area by directing heavy traffic into these areas.

Next Steps/Way Forward

Feedback received and summarised in this report will help Roads and Maritime with the development of the project.

Proposed next steps include:

- Continued analysis of the community feedback and review of options
- Further analysis of future road network requirements for the Riverstone area and the whole North West Growth Centre to meet existing and predicted increased population and traffic volumes.
- Involvement of Blacktown City Council, Hawkesbury City Council, Department of Planning and Environment, Transport for NSW and other relevant State Government agencies in selecting a preferred option.
- Further information is expected to be provided to the community in late 2014, including the results of the road network analysis.

Appendix

Community updates

Feedback form for the preliminary concept design

Newspaper advertisement (First advertisement announced display and second announced extension of consultation period)

Community update newsletter distribution area

Riverstone railway level crossing removal

Roads and Maritime Services is planning to close the railway level crossing at Riverstone and build a railway overpass to improve safety, reduce congestion and improve travel times. Government agencies have examined numerous options for the Riverstone railway crossing in the past 18 years. Finding an appropriate solution for the railway overpass has been an ongoing discussion within Government with various options considered. This process identified that there is no simple answer to this problem and any option chosen will create change within the Riverstone town centre and its surrounds. Viable options now need to be refined and discussed with the community and other stakeholders. Roads and Maritime is seeking your feedback by Friday 7 February.

Project objectives

- Close the existing railway level crossing to improve road and rail safety
- Reduce congestion caused by the existing Riverstone railway level crossing
- Reduce travel times between Windsor Road and Richmond Road
- Provide for future projected traffic growth resulting from the development of the North West Growth Centre.

What investigations have taken place to date?

Roads and Maritime has developed a summary of the various options investigated in the past 18 years. Roads and Maritime has shortlisted three potential options. These options are outlined below:

- Option 8 - Garfield Road Overpass (4 lanes)
- Option 12 - Castlereagh Street Overpass (4 lanes)
- Option 5 - Loftus Street Bypass (4 lanes) + Garfield Road Local Overpass (2 lanes)

This document is available on Roads and Maritime's website at rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects (and search for Riverstone overpass).

Shortlisted options for railway overpass



Viable options

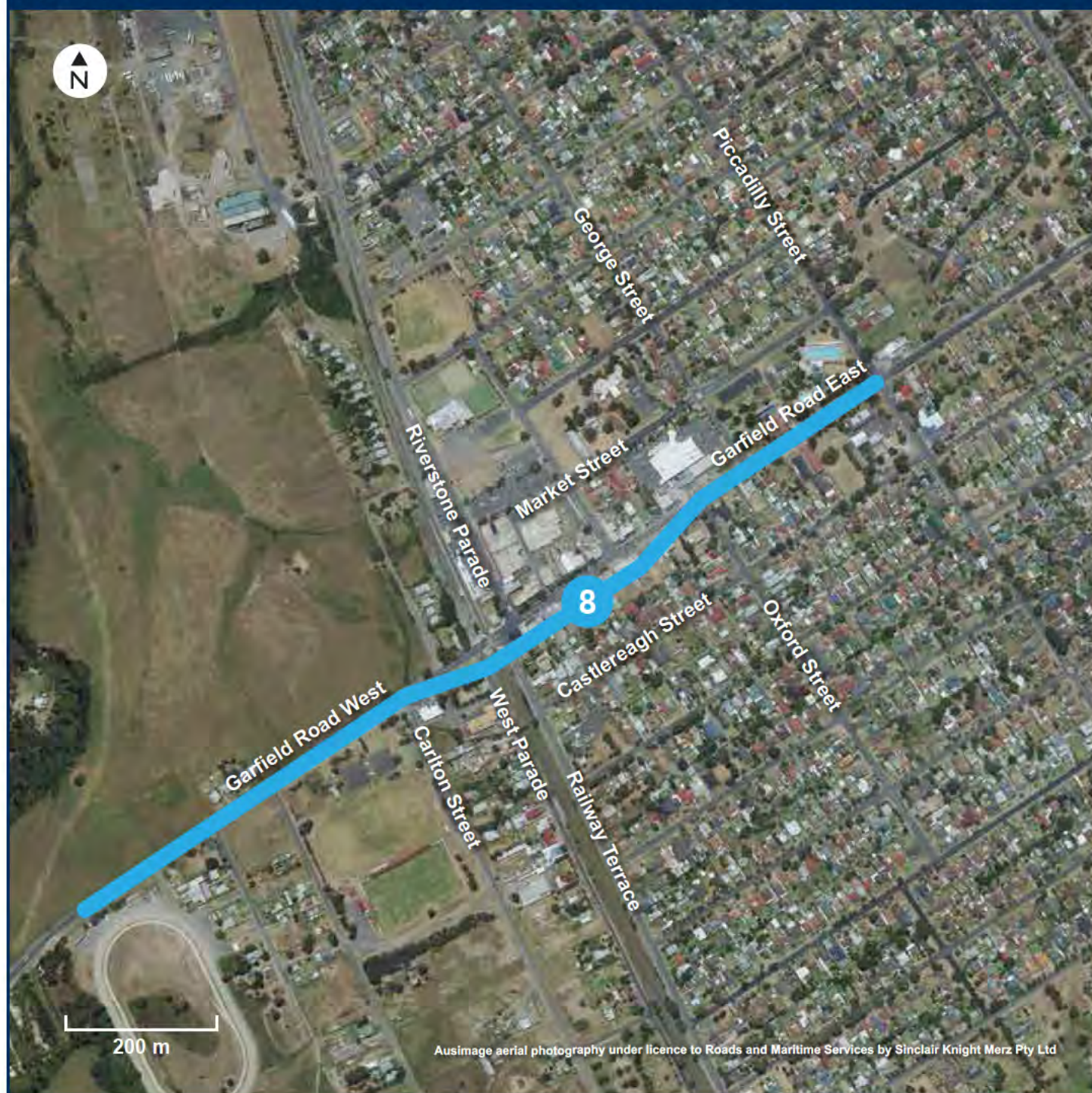
The development of the shortlisted options has been assessed against a number of criteria including traffic efficiency, cost, accessibility, environmental impact, timing, staging and amenity. This has resulted in two viable options for the Riverstone railway overpass: the Garfield Road option and the Garfield Road/Castlereagh Street option. Roads and Maritime is now seeking feedback from the community and other stakeholders for the selection of a preferred option.

Option 8 – Garfield Road overpass (4 lanes)

The Garfield Road option is a four lane bridge over the railway at the existing level crossing at Garfield Road. The bridge would span West Parade, the railway line and Railway Terrace. The Riverstone Parade, Railway Terrace and Garfield Road East intersection would be realigned.

The alignment would connect to Garfield Road near the intersection with Oxford Street. To the west, the alignment would connect to Garfield Road about 100 metres to the west of Carlton Street.

Option 8 – Garfield Road overpass (4 lanes)



The benefits of the Garfield Road option include:

- The direct route results in reduced travel times between Windsor Road and Richmond Road
- A safer journey for all road and rail users by removing the railway level crossing
- Shared paths for pedestrians and cyclists
- Opportunity for rejuvenation of the commercial precinct as part of the future town centre redevelopment.

The negative impacts include:

- Acquisition of commercial properties along the south side of Garfield Road
- The visual amenity of the existing Riverstone town centre would be changed
- Properties along Castlereagh Street may be exposed to road noise
- Has the potential to impact the existing businesses in town by reducing passing trade.

Option 8 – Garfield Road – aerial view



Option 8 – Garfield Road – side view



Option 12 – Garfield Road/ Castlereagh Street overpass (4 lanes)

The Garfield Road/Castlereagh Street option is a four lane bridge over the railway line slightly south of the existing level crossing between Garfield Road and Castlereagh Street. The bridge would span West Parade, the railway and Railway Terrace. The Riverstone Parade, Railway Terrace and Garfield Road East intersection would be realigned. The new road alignment would connect to Garfield Road near its intersection with Piccadilly Street.

To the west, the new road alignment deviates away from Garfield Road towards the south to leave the town centre section of Garfield Road East untouched. It would then connect to Garfield Road about 100 metres to the west of Carlton Street.

The benefits of the Garfield Road/Castlereagh Street option include:

- The direct route results in reduced travel times between Windsor Road and Richmond Road
- A safer journey for all road and rail users by removing the railway level crossing

Option 12 – Garfield Road/Castlereagh Street overpass (4 lanes)



- Shared paths for pedestrians and cyclists
- Retains the existing town centre main street and provides efficient access to the main street
- Opportunity for rejuvenation of the commercial precinct as part of the future town centre redevelopment.

The negative impacts include:

- Acquisition of residential land along Castlereagh Street and some acquisition along Garfield Road
- Has the potential to impact the existing businesses in town by reducing passing trade
- Properties along Castlereagh Street may be exposed to road noise
- The visual amenity of the existing Riverstone town centre would be changed.

Option 12 – Garfield Road/Castlereagh Street – aerial view



Option 12 – Garfield Road/Castlereagh Street – side view



Non-viable shortlisted option

Option 5 – Loftus Street bypass (4 lanes) + Garfield Road Local overpass (2 lanes)

The Loftus Street option requires the development of a new 2km road which crosses through undeveloped land from Garfield Road West to Loftus Street on the western side of the railway line. The new road would incorporate a new four lane bridge over the railway line to connect to Loftus Street. Loftus Street would need to be widened to four lanes through the industrial area from Riverstone Parade to Hamilton Street and a new 1.3km road would need to be built further east from

Hamilton Road to Windsor Road along the Loftus Street alignment. An additional two lane bridge over the railway line near to the existing railway level crossing would need to be built to maintain local access to and from the Riverstone town centre, and provide future residential access to sporting fields and other public facilities on the western side of the railway line.

A considerable volume of heavy vehicle traffic would be diverted away from the Riverstone town centre by the Loftus Street bypass.



The Loftus Street option is not considered viable due to the considerable negative impacts which include:

- The need for another bridge near the existing railway level crossing in addition to the Loftus Street four lane bridge
- Additional costs from new sections of road and property acquisition
- Major impact to Cumberland Plain Woodland near Loftus Street
- Impact on land zoned environmental conservation
- A reduction in the general visual amenity of Riverstone
- Requirement to acquire industrial properties along Loftus Street and commercial properties along Garfield Road
- Likely disturbance of Aboriginal heritage sites on the Eastern Creek floodplain and known Aboriginal deposits
- Significantly more expensive than options 8 and 12.

The viability of the Loftus Street option is dependent on the development of the Spine Road in the Riverstone West precinct by a private party. Development of this road is not within the control of the NSW Government, which makes this option undeliverable at this time.

Community involvement

Roads and Maritime recognises the importance of involving the community in the development of the railway overpass at Riverstone. Roads and Maritime is now displaying the two viable options along Garfield Road and along Castlereagh Street to the community for comments.

What happens next?

All feedback received during the display of the two viable options will be considered by the project team. A submissions report will be prepared and made available on the project website. Thank you for your participation.

Display locations

This community update, which includes the two viable options, is on the Roads and Maritime website.

The options will also be on display until 7 February at:

- **Riverstone Library,**
1st Floor, Marketown
Corner of Market Street
and Riverstone Parade
Riverstone NSW 2765
- **Blacktown City Council,**
62 Flushcombe Road
Blacktown NSW 2148

Consultation process



Community information sessions

Roads and Maritime will host two community information sessions. The Roads and Maritime project team will be available to answer questions and receive your feedback. A formal presentation will not be given, so please feel free to drop in at any time during the information sessions.

- **Thursday 12 December 2013**

5.30pm – 8.30pm

Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre
Sam Lane Community Complex
Park Street
Riverstone NSW 2765

- **Saturday 14 December 2013**

10am – 2pm

Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre
Sam Lane Community Complex
Park Street
Riverstone NSW 2765

Have your say

Roads and Maritime is seeking your feedback by **Friday 7 February 2014**. Comments and submissions should be sent to:

Email: RiverstoneOverpass@rms.nsw.gov.au

Phone: 1300 367 561

Mail: Riverstone Railway Overpass
Roads and Maritime Services
PO Box 973
Parramatta CBD NSW 2124

For more information

For more information on the Riverstone railway overpass project, please visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects (and search for Riverstone overpass).



Translating and Interpreting Service

If you need an interpreter, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on **131 450** and ask them to telephone Roads and Maritime Services on 1300 367 561.

Arabic

إذا كنتم بحاجة إلى مترجم، الرجاء الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة الخطية والشفهية (TIS National) على الرقم **131 450**.
والطلب منهم الاتصال بوكالتكم على الرقم 1300 367 561.

Cantonese

若你需要口譯員，請致電 **131 450** 聯絡翻譯和口譯服務署 (TIS National)，要求他們致電 1300 367 561 聯絡 Roads and Maritime Services。

Mandarin

如果你需要口译员，请致电 **131 450** 联系翻译和口译服务署 (TIS National)，要求他们致电 1300 367 561 联系 Roads and Maritime Services。

Greek

Αν χρειάζεστε διερμηνέα, παρακαλείστε να τηλεφωνήσετε στην Υπηρεσία Μετάφρασης και Διερμηνείας (Εθνική Υπηρεσία TIS) στο **131 450** και ζητήστε να τηλεφωνήσουν Roads and Maritime Services στο 1300 367 561.

Italian

Se desiderate l'assistenza di un interprete, prego telefonare al Servizio Interpreti e Traduttori (TIS National) al **131 450** chiedendo di contattare Roads and Maritime Services al 1300 367 561.

Korean

통역사가 필요하시면 번역통역서비스 (TIS National)에 **131 450** 으로 연락하여 이들에게 1300 367 561 번으로 Roads and Maritime Services 에 전화하도록 요청하십시오.

Vietnamese

Nếu cần thông ngôn viên, xin quý vị gọi cho Dịch Vụ Thông Phiên Dịch (TIS Toàn Quốc) qua số **131 450** và nhờ họ gọi cho Roads and Maritime Services qua số 1300 367 561.



To the householder/ business operator



Transport
Roads & Maritime
Services

FEBRUARY 2014

Riverstone railway level crossing removal

Announcement of additional community information sessions and consultation period extended to Friday 28 February.

Roads and Maritime Services is planning to close the railway level crossing at Riverstone and is investigating options for an alternative railway crossing to improve safety and to help manage growing traffic demand.

Roads and Maritime is seeking your comments on the selection of a preferred option from shortlisted options for a railway overpass at Riverstone.

This is an important change for Riverstone residents and other road users in the area. In response to feedback from the community, Roads and Maritime has extended the consultation period by three weeks to **Friday 28 February 2014**. This has been done to ensure as many affected people as possible can comment.

Roads and Maritime will also host three additional community information sessions. The Roads and Maritime project team will be available to answer questions and receive your feedback. A formal presentation will not be given, so please feel free to drop in at any time during the information sessions.

- **Tuesday 11 February, 10am-2pm**
Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre, Sam Lane Community Complex
Park Street, Riverstone
- **Thursday 13 February, 5-8pm**
Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre, Sam Lane Community Complex
Park Street, Riverstone
- **Saturday 15 February, 2-5pm**
Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre, Sam Lane Community Complex
Park Street, Riverstone

The community can also view the shortlisted options on the website and in hard copy at Riverstone Library, 1st Floor, Marketown, corner Market Street and Riverstone Parade, Riverstone, and at Blacktown City Council, 62 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown.

You can provide us with feedback via the Riverstone email RiverstoneOverpass@rms.nsw.gov.au.

Roads and Maritime will continue to keep residents and stakeholders informed as the project progresses. To sign up to project updates email RiverstoneOverpass@rms.nsw.gov.au.

Feedback form



Transport

Roads & Maritime Services

February 2014

Riverstone railway level crossing removal

Roads and Maritime Services is planning to close the existing railway level crossing at Riverstone. Roads and Maritime is seeking your comments by **Friday 28 February 2014** on the selection of a preferred option for an alternative railway crossing at Riverstone to improve safety and to help manage growing traffic demand. Please complete this feedback form and return it by **28 February 2014**. Alternatively you can contact the project team (see below).

Contact details (optional):

Name:	Email:
Address:	Contact number:

Please tick here if you wish to be added to our mailing list: ☐

To allow us to effectively collate your feedback, please tick one or more of the boxes below that best describes you:

- ☐ Local resident ☐ Heavy vehicle operator ☐ Pedestrian / cyclist
- ☐ Local business ☐ Government agency ☐ Transport group
- ☐ Train commuter ☐ Community group ☐ Other

Your comments, feedback, suggestions on the shortlisted options:

[illegible]

Thank you for your feedback.

All completed feedback forms should be emailed to RiverstoneOverpass@rms.nsw.gov.au or sent to Riverstone Overpass, Roads and Maritime Services, PO Box 973, Parramatta CBD, NSW 2124. You can also contact the project team on 1300 367 561 during business hours. For more information regarding the project, please visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects and search 'Riverstone Overpass'.

Privacy: The Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) is subject to the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 ("PP P Act") which requires that we comply with the Information Privacy Principles set out in the PPIIP Act. All information in correspondence is collected for the sole purpose of assisting in the development of the Lane Cove Road Clearways Review project. RMS will only disclose your personal information, without your consent, if authorised by the Law. Your personal information will be held at RMS at 27 Argyle Street, Parramatta NSW 2150. You have the right to access and correct the information if you believe that it is incorrect.



Transport
Roads & Maritime
Services

Riverstone railway level crossing removal

Roads and Maritime Services is planning to close the existing railway level crossing at Riverstone.

Roads and Maritime is seeking your feedback by **Friday 7 February 2014** on the selection of a preferred option for a railway overpass at Riverstone to improve safety, reduce congestion and improve travel times.

Two options have been shortlisted which include the Garfield Road option and the Garfield Road/Castlereagh Street option.

We value your feedback and will host two community information sessions:

Where: Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre
Sam Lane Community Complex,
Park Street, Riverstone NSW 2765

When: Thursday 12 December, 5.30pm to 8.30pm and Saturday
14 December, 10am to 2pm.

The two options will be on display until **Friday 7 February 2014** at:

- Riverstone Library, 1st Floor Marketown, Corner of Market Street and Riverstone Parade, Riverstone NSW 2765
- Blacktown City Council, 62 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown NSW 2148

N35285

**For more information call 1300 367 561,
email: RiverstoneOverpass@rms.nsw.gov.au
or visit rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects
(search for Riverstone overpass)**

Newspaper advertisement (first)



Transport
Roads & Maritime
Services

Riverstone railway level crossing removal

Roads and Maritime Services is planning to close the railway level crossing at Riverstone and is investigating options for an alternative railway crossing to improve safety and help manage growing traffic. Roads and Maritime is seeking your feedback on the selection of a preferred option from the shortlisted options for a railway overpass at Riverstone.

In response to your feedback, Roads and Maritime has extended the consultation period. **Please provide feedback by Friday 28 February 2014.**

Roads and Maritime will host three additional community information sessions:

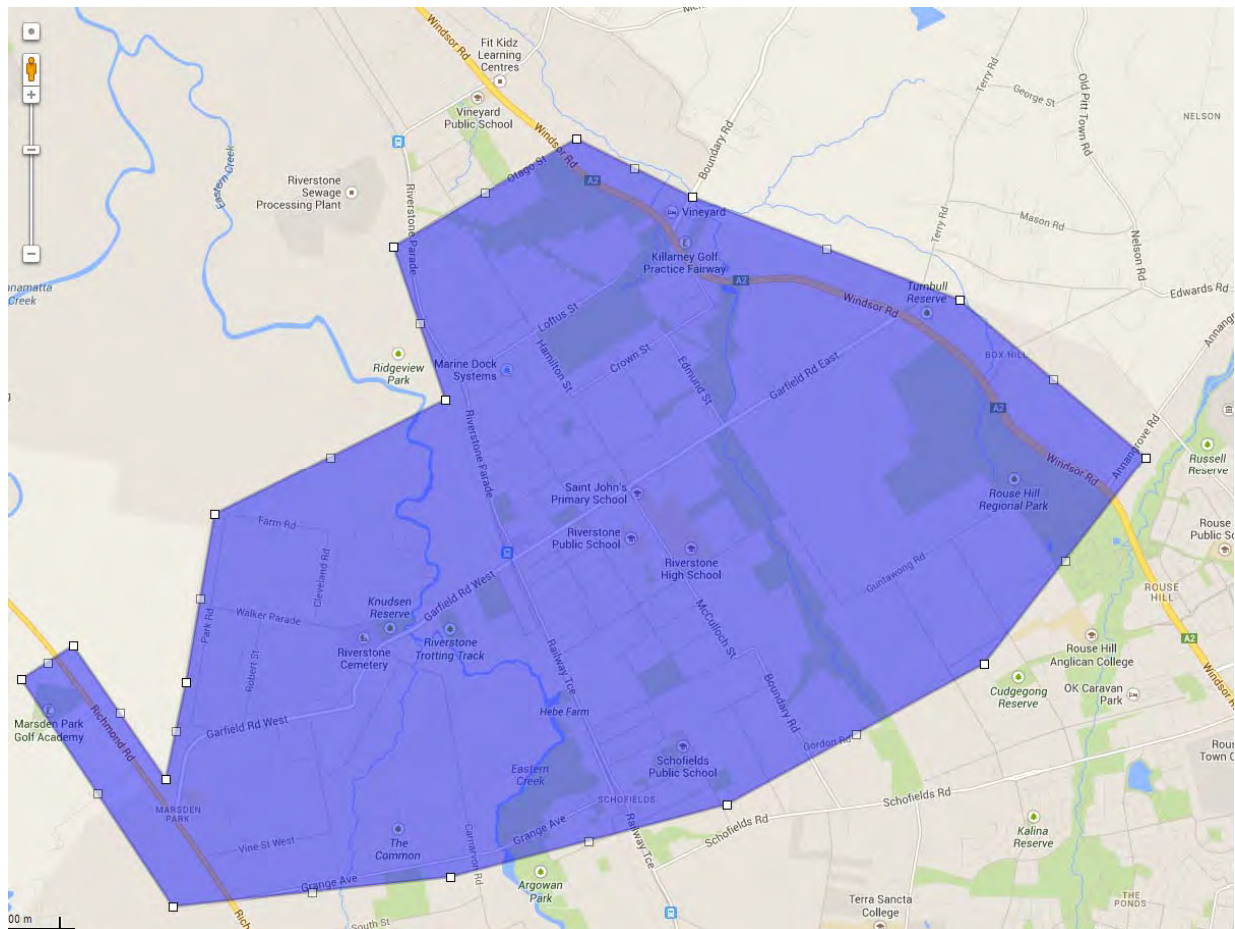
- **Tuesday 11 February, 10am-2pm**
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Park Street, Riverstone
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Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre
Sam Lane Community Complex
Park Street, Riverstone
- **Saturday 15 February, 2pm-5pm**
Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre
Sam Lane Community Complex
Park Street, Riverstone.

We look forward to seeing you there.

N45076

**For more information call 1300 367 561,
email: RiverstoneOverpass@rms.nsw.gov.au
or visit rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects
(search for Riverstone overpass)**

Newspaper advertisement (second)



Community update newsletter distribution area