

ADDITIONAL CROSSING OF THE CLARENCE RIVER AT GRAFTON PROJECT PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

February 2003

Additional Crossing of the Clarence River, Feasibility Study Report

The primary objective of the project is:

- To identify feasible locations for a second crossing of the Clarence River that considers environmental, traffic and community needs.

The supporting objectives of the project are to:

- Identify the environmental, traffic and community impacts on potential crossings;
- Identify locations that minimise the impact on the environment;
- To reduce the delays on the existing bridge by consideration of the long term traffic growth and development in the study area;
- Consider the needs of the State and local road network for the potential crossings;
- Determine the potential return on investment of potential crossings with the return to be twice the investment.

November 2003

Additional Crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton

Short listing of Localities Workshop Report,

(Volume 2 Appendix N of Additional Crossing of the Clarence River Grafton Environmental Overview Report)

The **purpose** of the project is to:

- Provide an additional crossing of the Clarence River in order to improve road safety, reduce traffic delays and provide improved access for the local and State road network between north and south of the Clarence River

The **broad project objectives** for the additional crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton are to:

- Significantly improve traffic efficiency
- Significantly reduce the potential for road accidents and injuries
- Be socially acceptable to the regional and local community
- Support economic development
- Be managed in accordance with Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) Principles
- Achieve maximum effectiveness of expenditure (*ie. value for money*)

Supporting objectives that are more specific and measurable as to how could achieve the broad objectives. These were distributed to the workshop group during the workshop and are listed below:

- Reduce delays at the existing Grafton Bridge and new bridge in peak hour to a Level of Service C (LOS) in 30 years after opening
- Provide an effective link to the State Road network including the Summerland Way
- Reduces the volume of through traffic, including heavy vehicles, in the CBD
- Provides adequate vertical clearance for heavy transport on the Summerland Way
- Develop a route option and intersection design that accommodates B-Double requirements
- Implement a comprehensive program of community consultation and participation
- Satisfy the technical and procedural requirements of the RTA with respect to the planning and design of the Project
- Provide transport solutions that are complementary with land use and that take into account future development opportunities
- Consider cyclists and public transport needs
- Provide traffic management solutions for the connecting approaches to the additional crossing, including the impact on connecting intersections, in consultation with Grafton City Council, for 30 years after opening
- Consider delay management strategies to minimise disruption to local and through traffic and maintain access to affected properties and land during construction
- Provide flood immunity for the bridge for a 1:100 year flood event and the approaches to 1:20 event where economically justified
- Provide navigation clearances for the additional crossing
- Minimise flooding impacts caused by the project
- Minimise the impacts on the natural environment to "less than significant"
- Minimise the impacts on the social environment to "less than significant"
- Minimise the impacts on heritage to "less than significant"
- Develop a route option bridge design to give a minimum design speed of 60km/h and approach design commensurate with the urban environment

- Minimise road traffic noise on existing residences with reference to the EPA Environmental Criteria for Road Traffic Noise
- Ensure that the project incorporates urban design principles to reinforces the aesthetics of Grafton City
- Provides a benefits to cost ratio of greater than 2
- Provides improved opportunity for economic and tourist development for Grafton

January 2004

Environmental Overview Report Volume I

The primary project objectives are;

- Significantly improve traffic efficiency;
- Significantly reduce the potential for road accidents and injuries;
- Be socially acceptable to the regional and local community
- Support economic development
- Be managed in accordance with Ecologically Sustainable Development Principles
- Achieve maximum effectiveness of expenditure

April 2004

Additional Crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton Corridor Evaluation Workshop Report (VM workshop),

Purpose of the Project

The purpose of the project is to provide an additional crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton in order to improve road safety, reduce traffic delays and provide improved access for the local and State road network between north and south of the Clarence River

Project Objectives

The group agreed that the project should:

- Significantly improve traffic efficiency
- Significantly reduce the potential for road accidents and injuries
- Be socially acceptable to the regional and local community
- Support economic development
- Be managed in accordance with Ecologically Sustainable Development Principles (minimise the impact on the environment)
- Achieve maximum effectiveness of expenditure (value for money)

July 2005

Draft Preferred Option Report

Additional Crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton

Purpose of the Project

The purpose of the project is to provide an additional crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton in order to improve road safety, reduce traffic delays and provide improved access for the local and State road network between north and south of the Clarence River

Project Objectives

Primary Objectives:

The primary project objectives are;

- Significantly improve traffic efficiency;
- Significantly reduce the potential for road accidents and injuries;
- Be socially acceptable to the regional and local community
- Support economic development
- Be managed in accordance with Ecologically Sustainable Development Principles
- Achieve maximum effectiveness of expenditure

Supporting Objectives:

- Reduce delays at the existing Grafton Bridge in peak hour to a Level of Service C in 30 years after opening
- Provides adequate vertical clearance for heavy transport on the Summerland Way
- Reduces the volume of through traffic, including heavy vehicles, from the CBD
- Reduce the potential for road accidents and injuries for the bridge and approaches to the additional crossing, including the connecting intersections
- Minimise flooding impacts caused by the project
- Minimise the impacts on the social environment
- Minimise the impacts on access for the community
- Provides improved opportunity for economic and tourist development for Grafton
- Minimise the impacts on the natural environment
- Minimise the impacts on heritage
- Minimise the Impacts of road traffic noise on existing noise sensitive developments

January 2010

Scope of Works and Technical Criteria for investigations into an Additional Crossing of the Clarence River at Grafton

Project Objectives

1. Improve traffic efficiency between and within Grafton and South Grafton.
2. Enhance safety for all road users over the length of the project.
3. Support regional and local economic development.
4. Involve all stakeholders and consider their interests.
5. Provide value for money.
6. Minimise impact on the environment.

Supporting Objectives:

Improve traffic efficiency between and within Grafton and South Grafton

- Provide similar flood immunity on at least two carriageways.
- Reduce delays between Grafton and South Grafton in peak hour to a acceptable level of service (level of service C 30 years after opening).
- Provide efficient access to the crossing of the Clarence river.

Enhance road safety for all road users over the length of the project

- Reduce the potential for road crashes and injuries on the bridge and approaches including any connecting intersections.
- Improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

Support regional and local economic development

- Provide for commercial transport including B-doubles where required.
- Provide improved opportunity for economic and tourist development for Grafton

Involve all stakeholders and consider their interests

- Develop solutions that address community expectations for project.
- Integrate input from local communities into the development of the project through the implementation of a comprehensive program of community consultation and participation.

Provide value for money

- Maximise the use of existing infrastructure where possible,
- Provide a detailed strategy for future upgrades to be easily integrated into the project from both engineering and environmental perspectives,

Minimise impact on the environment

- Minimise the impacts on the social environment.
- Minimise the impacts on heritage.
- Minimise impacts on the natural environment
- An aesthetically pleasing structure that fits sensitively into the built natural and community context.
- Minimise the impacts of road traffic noise on existing noise sensitive receivers.
- Minimise flooding impacts caused by the project

February 2010 - Community Update

December 2010 - Community Update

Project Objectives

1. Enhance safety for all road users over the length of the project.
2. Improve traffic efficiency between and within Grafton and South Grafton.
3. Support regional and local economic development.
4. Involve all stakeholders and consider their interests.
5. Provide value for money.
6. Minimise impact on the environment.