



Australian Government

**BUILDING OUR FUTURE**



# Nowra Bridge project

## Princes Highway upgrade

## Have your say – Preferred option

February 2018



Artist's impression – Perspective of the new four lane bridge over the Shoalhaven River – view from the south west side of the river

The NSW Government has invested \$1.6 million, with the Australian Government committing \$10 million, for planning a new bridge on the Princes Highway over the Shoalhaven River at Nowra.

### Background

Roads and Maritime Services is planning for a new Princes Highway bridge over the Shoalhaven River at Nowra. The project would provide upgraded intersections at Bolong, Illaroo and Bridge Roads and at Pleasant Way.

We have been investigating options to determine the appropriate number of lanes required for the new bridge, intersection layouts, and the future of the old southbound bridge.

### Preferred option

A preferred option for the project has been identified and is on display for community feedback from **Monday 19 February until Friday 23 March 2018**.

The preferred option includes:

- A new northbound four lane bridge
- Reconfiguration of the existing concrete bridge to carry southbound traffic
- Intersection upgrades at Illaroo Road, Bolong Road and Bridge Road
- New Pleasant Way T-intersection
- Keeping the old southbound bridge for pedestrians and cyclists.

More information on the preferred option can be found in the *Nowra Bridge Project Preferred Option Summary* available at [rms.nsw.gov.au/nowrabridge](http://rms.nsw.gov.au/nowrabridge).

### Have your say

See the back on this community update for details on how you can give us your feedback.



## 1 Princes Highway / Bolong Road intersection

- Minor adjustments to be confirmed during concept design.

## 2 Princes Highway / Illaroo Road intersection

- An additional right turn lane onto the Princes Highway from Illaroo Road
- An additional right turn lane from the Princes Highway onto Illaroo Road.

## 3 Princes Highway / Bridge Road intersection

- Relocated further south, see inset <sup>4</sup>
- Converted to a T-intersection
- Access to Pleasant Way closed.

## 4 New Princes Highway / Pleasant Way intersection

- New T-intersection located further to the south
- All turning movements catered for.

## 5 Bridges over the Shoalhaven River

- New northbound bridge
  - Located west of the existing bridges
  - Four northbound traffic lanes
  - Pedestrian/cyclist facilities.
- Existing concrete bridge
  - Southbound traffic would use the existing concrete bridge
  - Southbound capacity would increase from two to three lanes.
- Existing old southbound bridge
  - Kept for adaptive reuse such as a shared pedestrian and cyclist path
  - Closed to vehicular traffic once construction of the new bridge is complete.

### Key benefits of the preferred option:

- Improving safety, capacity and efficiency across the Shoalhaven River at Nowra
- Improving freight movements and access to the South Coast of NSW
- Better traffic flow now and into the future
- Improving pedestrian connectivity
- Preserving the heritage of the old southbound bridge.



**New pathways  
for active transport**



**Save travel time**



**Intersection  
improvements**



**Better and more  
reliable trips  
for people, business and freight**



**Improving  
traffic flow**

**More information on the preferred option can be found in the Nowra Bridge Project Preferred Option Report available [rms.nsw.gov.au/nowrabridge](https://rms.nsw.gov.au/nowrabridge).**

## Option development and assessment

The Nowra Bridge project area includes the old Nowra Bridge, a concrete bridge and four intersections. The area experiences high traffic volumes that made development and assessment of potential options complex. A short summary of the decision making process is below with more detailed information in the Nowra Bridge Project Preferred Option Report available to view at [rms.nsw.gov.au/nowrabridge](https://rms.nsw.gov.au/nowrabridge).

## Future of the old southbound bridge

The future of the old southbound bridge has been the subject of extensive investigation by RMS and external experts.

To reach a recommendation, various options were considered and assessed. The criteria used for assessment included the significance of the bridge, the expected benefits, estimated costs and community and stakeholder feedback and expectations.

We are proposing to keep the old southbound bridge for pedestrian and cyclist use. Key findings of the reviews found:

- There are considerable heritage and social impacts associated with any option to remove the bridge (in whole or part)
- The bridge is operationally unsuitable to cater for future traffic demands and should be closed to vehicles once a new bridge crossing of the Shoalhaven River is open to traffic.

## Intersection options

Due to constraints including high traffic volumes in the area, the process of identifying, developing and evaluating options for the new bridge and intersection upgrades was complex.

Over 19 options for the project were initially identified, assessed and shortlisted to six main network options. These options were then tested and compared to each other considering:

- Traffic performance
- Ease of construction
- Property impacts
- Environmental and heritage impacts
- Road and urban design options
- Future maintenance needs
- Value for money
- Key stakeholder feedback.

The preferred option is a balanced proposal which addresses the project's objectives.

## Involving the community

We are continuing to work with the community and stakeholders during the planning process to identify issues and minimise potential impacts.

Feedback received will be considered to finalise the concept design and prepare environmental assessment for the project.



Artist's impression - Perspective of the new four lane bridge over the Shoalhaven River - view from the north west side of the river

## Project development process



## Drop in and see us

Find out more about the project by dropping into a number of community information kiosks at:

- **Stocklands Nowra**  
60 East Street, Nowra  
Thursday 1 and Saturday 3 March 2018, 11am – 3pm
- **North Nowra Shops**  
1–13 McMahons Road, North Nowra  
Thursday 8 and Saturday 10 March 2018, 11am – 3pm
- **Nowra School of Arts Annex**  
Berry Street, Nowra  
Saturday 17 March 2018, 10am – 1pm

## Display locations

The preferred option for Nowra Bridge project will be on display from Monday 19 February until Friday 23 March 2018 at the following locations:

- **Shoalhaven City Council**  
36 Bridge Road, Nowra  
9.15am – 4.30pm Monday to Friday
- **Nowra Library**  
10 Berry Street, Nowra  
9.30am – 7pm Monday to Friday,  
9.30am – 3pm Saturday
- **TAFE NSW Nowra**  
60 Belinda Street, Bomaderry  
9am – 4pm Monday to Friday

## Further information

More information, including frequently asked questions, is available on the project page at [rms.nsw.gov.au/nowrabridge](http://rms.nsw.gov.au/nowrabridge)

### Have your say

Feedback on the preferred option is invited until Friday 23 March 2018.

Please send your feedback to:

1800 331 713 (toll free)

NowraBridgeProject@rms.nsw.gov.au

M1 / Princes Highway upgrade –  
Roads and Maritime Services

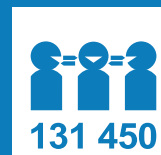
Nowra Bridge Project  
PO Box 477  
Wollongong NSW 2500

## Next steps

Upcoming planning activities include:

- Reviewing community feedback
- Advancing the concept design
- Preparing the environmental assessment for the proposal.

The timing of construction is not confirmed and is subject to planning approval and funding availability.



If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 1800 331 713.



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