

Transport for NSW is delivering safer and more reliable journeys on the South Coast by progressing with investigation and planning of the proposed upgrade of the Princes Highway upgrade between Jervis Bay Road and Sussex Inlet Road.

### About the Princes Highway upgrade between Jervis Bay Road and Sussex Inlet Road

The Princes Highway is a critical link between Sydney and the Illawarra Region with the NSW South Coast down to border with Victoria. It provides vital connections between towns and regional centres and is an important freight link. The Princes Highway connects key east-west road corridors and is a significant route for inter-regional business, tourism and leisure travel.

A proposed upgrade of the Princes Highway between Jervis Bay Road and Sussex Inlet would help transform communities, create better connected and more mobile regional centres, deliver a more resilient transport network, improve safety, ease traffic congestion and grow regional economies.

The upgrade would address the 126 crashes including 5 fatal crashes and 42 serious injury crashes on this section of highway in the five years from 2014 to 2018.

### What is the preferred strategic corridor and how why was this corridor selected?

The diagram below shows the preferred strategic corridor.



The preferred strategic corridor has the following key features:

- Connect with the proposed design for the Jervis Bay Road intersection upgrade
- Improved safety and traffic efficiency by planning for an upgraded highway alignment with two lanes in each direction
- Improved safety, performance and accessibility to key intersections, better connecting communities off the highway
- Improved accessibility in and around Wandandian and Bewong and improve efficiency and reduce congestion on the highway by bypassing east of Wandandian.

The preferred strategic corridor was identified following a strategic investigation and design process that assessed four shortlisted options against agreed criteria.

Feedback on the preferred option is invited between **25 November 2020 and Sunday 20 December 2020**. Feedback can be provided via our online survey, by email or phone. Contact details are provided on the last page of this document.

### **Will the upgrade include the full duplication of the Princes Highway between Jervis Bay Road and Sussex Inlet Road?**

The proposed upgrade and identified strategic corridor includes provision to duplicate the Princes Highway between Jervis Bay Road and Sussex Inlet Road in some sections.

The design features and intersection treatments along the stretch of highway will be further investigated and the community will be informed of these plans as the project progresses.

### **Will there be property acquisitions and will I be affected?**

Some properties and businesses may be impacted by the project. We will be in contact with property owners and tenants who may be directly affected. We will work closely with them and provide the necessary support throughout the project.

### **When will I know if my property will be acquired?**

More information on what properties would be required and when acquisition would be required will be available when the concept design and environmental assessment are displayed, following consultation with all property owners.

### **When will work start?**

Preliminary investigations have commenced and the outcome of this work will be used to further refine the strategic corridor and to help identify a preferred option. We are investigating opportunities for staged delivery of the upgrade. Timeframes for the project have not been finalised.

The community will be kept informed of project milestones including the identification of a preferred option, environmental assessments and proposed start of construction as the project progresses.

### **How will local access (off the Princes Highway) be impacted by the proposed upgrade?**

During the strategic investigation and design phase, we will identify local access points and considered opportunities for how access could be maintained during the construction and when the proposed upgrade is open to traffic.

Some changes to how transport users, residents and businesses currently access the Princes Highway may be required for the highway upgrade and to improve road safety and these changes will be further investigated during the next design stage. More information on local road and property access will be available during display of the concept design and environmental assessment, following consultation with property owners.

Transport has also identified potential major intersections along this stretch of the highway, and the treatments/types for each intersection will be determined as the project progresses.

Transport for NSW will continue to work with emergency services providers to ensure the highway responds effectively during emergencies and major events.

**How does this proposed upgrade between Jervis Bay Road and Sussex Inlet Road impact other projects like the Island Point Road and Princes Highway intersection and/or the Jervis Bay Road and Princes Highway intersection?**

Construction of the Island Point Road roundabout is nearing completion, with the upgraded intersection recently opened to traffic. The new roundabout at the intersection of the Princes Highway and Island Point Road in Tomerong improves safety, traffic efficiency and connectivity around the Bay and Basin area.

During the next stages of planning, further studies will be carried out on the Island Point Road and Princes Highway intersection. More information on the intersection will be available when a preferred option is identified.

More information about the Island Point Road intersection project can be found on the project [website](#).

The Jervis Bay Road intersection project recently progressed to the next phase of design, with a grade separated interchange, or flyover, identified as the preferred option for the intersection upgrade. This preferred option would be the safest, most reliable, provide the most reduced congestion and most improved connectivity compared to other options assessed.

More information about the Jervis Bay Road intersection upgrade project can be found on the project [website](#).

**How are environmental impacts considered during the planning of the project?**

Following identification of the preferred option, we will carry out an environmental assessment of the proposed project. The environmental assessment will include a more detailed description of the proposal and design features, impacts and benefits and includes studies and investigation about biodiversity, Aboriginal cultural heritage, non-Aboriginal heritage, property and land use, visual impact, traffic and transport, socio-economic benefits and impacts of noise and vibration, flooding and hydrology, and the consideration of cumulative impacts. The environmental assessment will identify the mitigation measures required to manage these impacts during the design, construction and operational phases of the project.

### **Is the project funded?**

The Australian and NSW governments have committed to upgrade sections of the Princes Highway between Nowra and the Victorian border. More than \$1.5 billion has been committed to achieving this. The Jervis Bay Road to Sussex Inlet upgrade has been identified as a priority project.

### **Will there be noise impacts associated with the highway upgrade?**

The strategic investigation and design of the upgrade considered potential noise aspects of the shortlisted corridor options to inform identification of a preferred strategic corridor, however any potential impacts have not been determined. Possible noise impacts will be looked at as part of the environmental assessment which is a future stage of planning for the project.

### **What are the next steps for the project?**

We will consider community and stakeholder feedback as we further develop design features and prepare an environmental impact statement for the highway upgrade. This assessment will have more information on the project's design features, potential benefits and impacts. The community and key stakeholders will have another opportunity provide feedback when the environmental assessment is on display.

We are looking at ways to stage the construction of the proposed upgrade and will continue to keep the community updated as the project progresses.

Feedback on the preferred option is invited between **25 November 2020 and Sunday 20 December 2020**.

### **How will my feedback be used?**

All feedback from this display period will be considered during development of the concept design and environmental assessment. The concept design and environmental assessment will be displayed for community feedback.

### **What is Transport's long term plan for the Princes Highway?**

Transport for NSW has developed a strategic roadmap for the Princes Highway upgrade. It is Transport's plan for the highway over the next 20 years and identifies what needs to be done in the short, medium and long term to deliver a vision for the Princes Highway as a safe, reliable, efficient and connected network.

It would be a highway that enables the movement of people and goods and supports sustainable growth of the local economy, employment opportunities and population.

It would contribute to the character of the places it serves and be resilient to adapt to natural hazards and climate change, respond to changing land use, and support new technologies, industries and economic trends.

The roadmap is built on five goals:

- **Safety:** A safer corridor for all customers and communities including local traffic, freight, tourists, and public and active transport users.

- **Resilience:** A corridor that can be efficiently managed and maintained while adapting to changing social, environmental and economic factors including the ability to quickly recover from natural disasters and respond to changing land use and technologies.
- **Liveability:** A corridor that supports communities by connecting and contributing to providing attractive and healthy places to live, work and play.
- **Sustainability:** A corridor that is socially, environmentally and economically sustainable and unlocks a wide range benefits for communities and other customers.
- **Connectivity and Accessibility:** A corridor that has good physical and digital connectivity and accessibility, for access to opportunity and services.

### **Where can I find more information?**

More information on the Preferred Strategic Corridor report is available at unstaffed display locations between 25 November and 20 December at the Nowra Library and Sanctuary Point Library. The report explains how we identified this option and how it would deliver safer, more reliable and better connected journeys.

Alternatively, please contact the Princes Highway upgrade team by:

- Phone: 1800 719 759
- Email: [princeshighway@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:princeshighway@transport.nsw.gov.au)

More information is also available at [nswroads.work/jervisbayroad-sussexinletupgrade](https://nswroads.work/jervisbayroad-sussexinletupgrade)