



Frequently asked questions

Princes Highway upgrade - Jervis Bay Road and Sussex Inlet Road upgrade

Princes Highway upgrade between Jervis Bay Road and Sussex Inlet Road

What is happening?

Planning for the upgrade of sections of the 20 kilometre length of the Princes Highway between Jervis Bay Road and Sussex Inlet Road has been identified as a short term infrastructure priority in the 20 year roadmap for the Princes Highway upgrade.

A range of strategic corridors option were identified during the planning phase, and these options were explored at a value management workshop. This workshop involved key local, state and federal government specialists who assessed four shortlisted options against the agreed criteria before making a recommendation for a preferred strategic corridor option.

The proposed corridor of the Princes Highway will address the poor crash history in the area and improve efficiency while providing connectivity for homes and businesses.

A consultation report is being prepared that will consider recent community feedback. Following that, a preferred option will be identified and an environmental assessment and concept design would then be prepared to explain the potential impacts of the project and provide more detail on the proposed features of the upgrade.

Why is highway upgrade needed?

Planning for the upgrade of sections of the 20 kilometre length of the Princes Highway between Jervis Bay Road and Sussex Inlet Road would deliver a more resilient transport network, improve safety, ease traffic congestion and while keeping people connected to local services and their homes.

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 are the objectives of the project?

The project objectives were developed with consideration of the Princes Highway upgrade program as well as the key outcome for the Princes Highway upgrade between Jervis Bay Road and Sussex Inlet Road. The project objectives include:

- Improve safety for all transport users
- Support pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users
- Grow regional economies including tourism and freight
- Improve resilience
- Reduce congestion
- Better connect regional centres.

A safer and more reliable intersection would deliver on Transport's 20 year vision for the Princes Highway as a safe, reliable, efficient and connected transport network.

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

The preferred strategic corridor identified for the Jervis Bay Road to Sussex Inlet Road upgrade has the following key features:

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

The diagram below shows the preferred strategic corridor.



The preferred strategic corridor was identified following a strategic investigation and design process that assessed four shortlisted options against agreed criteria. More information on this process is available in the Preferred Strategic Option report, available on the project website.

What community consultation has been carried out?

In late 2020, Transport consulted with community and stakeholders on the preferred strategic option. Consultation methods included stakeholder briefings and meetings with community groups, a Facebook Live session, emails, notifications sent to all townships near the highway, print and digital advertising and door knocking of all properties within the 20 kilometre preferred strategic corridor.

Feedback was accepted via online survey, email, phone or printed feedback forms.

As of February 2021, a consultation report is being prepared with more information on the community and stakeholder feedback received over this period.

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 planning to duplicate the Princes Highway between Jervis Bay Road and Sussex Inlet Road.

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.

When will work start?

Timeframes for the project have not been finalised.

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.

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 (to and from the Princes Highway) be impacted by the project?

During the strategic investigation and design phase, we will identify local access points and consider 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 when the concept design and environmental assessment are displayed. This will follow 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.

What are the impacts of the project (noise, heritage, biodiversity, flooding, property,etc)?

The project team will carry out an environmental assessment of the proposed project area. The environmental assessment will include a more detailed description of the proposal and design features, impacts and benefits and include 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.

Nearby properties were informed of the preferred strategic option immediately following the announcement in November 2020.

Any business owner, property or tenant impacted by the project will be directly contacted by the project team and Transport will work closely with these people to support them throughout the project. More information on the property acquisition process can be found at www.propertyacquisition.nsw.gov.au.

What's the process from here?

Transport is considering community and stakeholder feedback received during the recent consultation period. This feedback will help us 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 displayed.

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.

How will we be kept informed about the project?

You can subscribe to project updates and tell us how you want to be contacted in the future on the project webpage. We will keep the community updated as we progress.

For more information or to speak to a member of the project team please call 1800 719 759 or email princeshighway@transport.nsw.gov.au.