



# Frequently Asked Questions

## Moruya bypass

February 2021

Transport for NSW has developed a strategic roadmap for the Princes Highway to deliver a vision for the Princes Highway as a safe, reliable, efficient and connected network. This includes plans for a proposed Moruya bypass.

### About the Moruya bypass

The Princes Highway is critical to a thriving South Coast NSW. It helps drive the state's third largest regional economy, is relied upon by over 500,000 locals and welcomes almost four million tourists each year. It connects regional centres and essential services and is the main transport corridor for freight to the region.

A bypass would provide safer and more reliable journeys in and around Moruya. It would unlock opportunities for other modes of transport and improve the feel of Moruya town centre for locals, pedestrians and businesses. It would contribute to the liveability of the town.

### What is happening with the proposed Moruya bypass project?

In March 2020, the community were invited to provide feedback on three projects including the Jervis Bay Road and Princes Highway intersection upgrade, Milton Ulladulla and Moruya bypass projects. Plans for the proposed Moruya bypass are progressing.

The Australian and NSW Governments have announced \$1.5 billion towards upgrading the Princes Highway between Nowra and the Victorian border. Planning for the Moruya bypass has been identified as a short term priority within the Princes Highway strategic roadmap; a 20 year plan to deliver a safe, reliable, efficient and connected transport network. During the community consultation carried out in March and April 2020, a range of bypass corridors were suggested by the community.

Transport is currently undertaking an extensive planning and development process, including holding a series of value management and technical workshops. These workshops bring together technical specialists and representatives from key stakeholder groups such as local and state government agencies and community groups to consider a range of design options against agreed assessment criteria. Further investigation work and studies to better understand the existing flood behaviour and environmental constraints within the Moruya area prior to identifying a preferred strategic corridor are ongoing. The preferred strategic corridor will be shared with the community for feedback when a recommendation is made.

## What are the objectives of the project?

The project aims to provide safer and more reliable journeys in and around Moruya. It would unlock opportunities for other modes of transport and improve the feel of Moruya town centre for locals, pedestrians and businesses. It would contribute to the liveability of the town and would:

- Create safer and more efficient journeys for all road users
- Improve access to local roads and reduce congestion through the Moruya town centre
- Provide opportunities to enhance the atmosphere of the town centre and support the growth of regional economies including tourism and freight
- Cater for future growth of Moruya and connected communities and improve access to essential services
- Support network reliability and safe access, especially during emergencies.

## What's the process from here? (has a preferred corridor been decided)?

A preferred corridor for the proposed Moruya bypass has not been decided.

During an initial consultation period in March and April 2020, we listened to the community's thoughts and insights on travelling in and around Moruya. Work is continuing to identify a preferred strategic corridor for the proposed Moruya bypass.

During the 2020/2021 summer period, temporary cameras were installed at various locations in and around Moruya to collect traffic data over the peak holiday period.

Geotechnical investigations will be carried out in early 2021 to get a better understanding of the environmental and geotechnical conditions of the area. This work includes drilling or excavating holes to collect information on soil and rock samples in and around Moruya. Other work being carried out in early 2021 includes vegetation, local habitat and Aboriginal heritage studies.

Transport is continuing with investigations including work to further understand the existing flood behaviour and environmental constraints within the Moruya area prior to identifying a preferred strategic corridor which will be shared with the community and stakeholder for feedback.

## When will work start?

Investigations are continuing and the outcome of this work along with the feedback received from the community will be used to help identify a preferred strategic corridor option. The construction date is yet to be determined and the community will be kept informed as the project's planning progresses.

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

A preferred strategic corridor and any potential impacts of the corridor have not been determined. Some properties and businesses may be impacted by the preferred corridor of the bypass. We will be in contact with property owners and tenants who may be directly

affected once potential impacts have been identified. We will work closely with them and provide the necessary support throughout the project.

## **How will the proposed bypass connect with the location of the new Eurobodalla Health Service (hospital)?**

In December 2020, the NSW Government announced the site location for the new \$200 million Eurobodalla Health Service in south-east Moruya. More information about the Eurobodalla Health Service can be found [here](#).

Transport will continue to work closely with Health Infrastructure NSW as we progress our plans to provide efficient connections between the hospital, highway and Moruya township.

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

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 potential 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.

## **How are you specifically considering flood impacts?**

Concerns about flood impacts was raised when we consulted with the community in March 2020. We are undertaking investigations to assess potential changes to flood behaviour and impacts. These investigations will help identify a preferred strategic corridor option. Further consideration to water levels and areas subject to flooding will be investigated as part of the environmental assessment.

## **Will there be noise impacts associated with the proposed bypass and will I be affected?**

A preferred strategic corridor and any potential impacts of the corridor have not been determined. Potential noise impacts will be looked at as part of the environmental assessment which is a future stage of planning for the project.

## **What kind of enhancements are planned to make the town more liveable and attractive to those that live here and tourists?**

The project would provide an opportunity to enhance the atmosphere and liveability of the town centre for locals, visitors and businesses. We are working with Council, other government agencies and the community to understand to what extent the project can enhance the town centre's liveability and atmosphere and cater for future growth and improve access to essential services such as hospitals and schools.

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### **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 our webpage at [nswroad.work/moruyabypass](https://nswroad.work/moruyabypass). 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](mailto:princeshighway@transport.nsw.gov.au)