



Rawsonville Bridge replacement

Frequently asked questions – November 2021

About the project

What is happening?

The community is invited to have their say on a proposal to replace the Rawsonville Bridge over the Macquarie River, west of Dubbo.

The NSW Government has committed \$12.5 million for the project to increase load capacity, improve safety and reduce ongoing maintenance costs.

The proposal includes construction of a new concrete bridge, new roads on either side of the bridge to connect to the existing road network and removal of the old Rawsonville Bridge, once the new bridge is operational.

Transport for NSW (Transport) has prepared a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) to determine the environmental and social impacts for the replacement of the Rawsonville Bridge.

The REF is now on display for public information and comment.

What is a Review of Environmental Factors?

A Review of Environmental Factors (REF) is an environmental assessment that is required as part of the assessment of activities needing approval under NSW legislation. An REF examines the significance of likely environmental impacts of a proposal and the measures required to mitigate any adverse impacts to the environment.

An REF is a publicly available document that provides information on a proposal, including its environmental impacts and mitigation measures.

Your feedback will further allow Transport to continue the REF assessment.

When is the display period?

The REF is open for public display from Monday 15 November to Wednesday 22 December. This is an opportunity for the community to read the report, view the concept plan and submit their comments. Submissions made from the community during the display period have the potential to alter the construction of a project.

Where can I view the REF?

The REF is available to read online on the project website nswroads.work/rawsonville.

A hard copy of the REF is also available at Dubbo Library.

Drop-in sessions will be available for the community to discuss the project with the project team.

How do I make a submission?

Submissions can be made via:

- email: westernprojects@transport.nsw.gov.au
- phone: 1800 167 499
- online via nswroads.work/rawsonville

What happens if I don't have internet access?

If you don't have internet access you can call the project team on 1800 167 499, who will arrange a hard copy of the report to be sent to your address.

How will my comments be used?

The feedback will be collated and summarised into a submissions report. The report will respond directly to the feedback received and note any changes to the proposal due to the community's feedback. The report will be released on our project website and we will inform the community when it is ready to view.

Will the community's comments bring about any project change?

Submissions made by the community during the REF display period can alter the design and construction of a project. Any changes made due to feedback received will be presented in the submissions report.

Have you considered the impact on the environment?

The REF is an environmental assessment that identifies and assesses the potential social, economic and environmental impacts. As part of the investigations, we will assess potential environmental impacts such as noise, vibration, contamination, traffic, flooding and surface water, landscape and visual impacts, biodiversity, land use, heritage, air quality, flora and fauna.

Will the work be noisy?

There will be some noise during construction but this will be limited to daylight hours and will be in accordance with specified environmental standards. We will consult with properties expected to be impacted and provide appropriate notice before we begin work.

Will the work impact the Macquarie River?

Rawsonville Bridge crosses the Macquarie River, and is within the Macquarie River catchment. The work will not have an adverse impact on the river or the environment. When construction is carried out, Transport will use best practice environmental controls.

What will happen to the old bridge?

Transport will seek to preserve the history and heritage significance of the existing timber bridge by including a heritage interpretation area as part of the work.

What happens next?

Following the display period, the REF will be finalised and all submissions will be collated and reviewed by the project team. The feedback will be responded to and published in a submissions report that will be publicly available. Transport will then complete the final design and prepare for construction. We will continue to keep the community updated as the project progresses.

When is work expected to start?

It is anticipated construction will start in 2023, with work expected to take 18 months to complete.

How much will the project cost?

The NSW Government has committed \$12.5 million to replace the Rawsonville Bridge.