

April 2022

New Richmond Bridge and traffic improvements – The Driftway (Stage 1)



Australian Government

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GOVERNMENT

The Australian Government and NSW Government are funding traffic improvements including a new bridge over the Hawkesbury River between Richmond and North Richmond. The Australian Government's \$400 million funding is being provided through its commitment to the Hawkesbury River Third Crossing project.

Background

The bridge between Richmond and North Richmond provides a vital crossing of the Hawkesbury River and carries an average of 31,000 vehicles per day with a single lane in each direction.

In early 2020, following community and stakeholder feedback, four options were shortlisted for further assessment. Each of the shortlisted options had a common element to provide upgrades to The Driftway between Londonderry Road and Blacktown Road.

Transport is progressing with the upgrades to The Driftway as Stage 1 of the New Richmond Bridge and traffic improvements project.

Improvements to The Driftway would:

- Reduce crashes at intersections
- Cater for future traffic growth
- Reduce delays in turning from The Driftway onto Londonderry Road and Blacktown Road
- Improve flood resilience by raising the new realigned section at the eastern end of The Driftway by over three metres



Aerial view of Londonderry Road and The Driftway

Stage 1 Review of Environmental Factors Determination

The Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for Stage 1 was on public display from 15 November to 10 December 2021. Transport for NSW thanks everyone who provided feedback to the consultation. The main issue raised in submissions related to the impacts of increased traffic volumes on The Driftway and how they would be managed. Other issues raised include flooding, noise, and biodiversity impacts.

Transport has prepared a detailed Submissions Report which summarises comments or questions received during the public display and our responses. You can access this report online at <https://roads-waterways.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/richmond-area-projects/richmond-bridge-duplication-and-traffic-improvements.html> If you made a submission, you will receive an email or letter advising of where your submission has been addressed in the report and any changes to the proposal as a result of feedback.

Following consideration of issues raised during the public display some minor changes have been made to the design including improving the safety of access to the Hawkesbury Waste Management facility, increasing the pavement life from 20 to 40 years, and where possible reducing the steepness of embankments to make maintenance easier. Transport has now determined the REF for Stage 1 to progress into detailed design and construction.

Stage 1 next steps

We have commenced the process to procure a contractor for design and construction with the contract to be awarded late 2022. Detailed design and early works including utility relocation will commence later this year. We will continue to update the community on progress of Stage 1 and any work that will be undertaken.

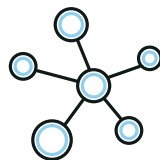
How will the work affect you?

Construction is expected to take about 18 months to complete. Our standard work hours would be between 7am and 6pm Monday to Friday and between 8am and 1pm on Saturday. At times, we may need to carry out some out of hours or night work.

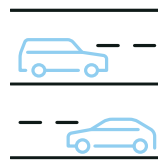
There will be temporary traffic changes at times during our work to ensure the work zone is safe. This will include lane closures with stop and go contra flow traffic control in place. The community would be notified ahead of any out of hours work or changes to traffic conditions.



Improved Safety



Enhanced network performance



Easing congestion



Improved resilience and future proofing

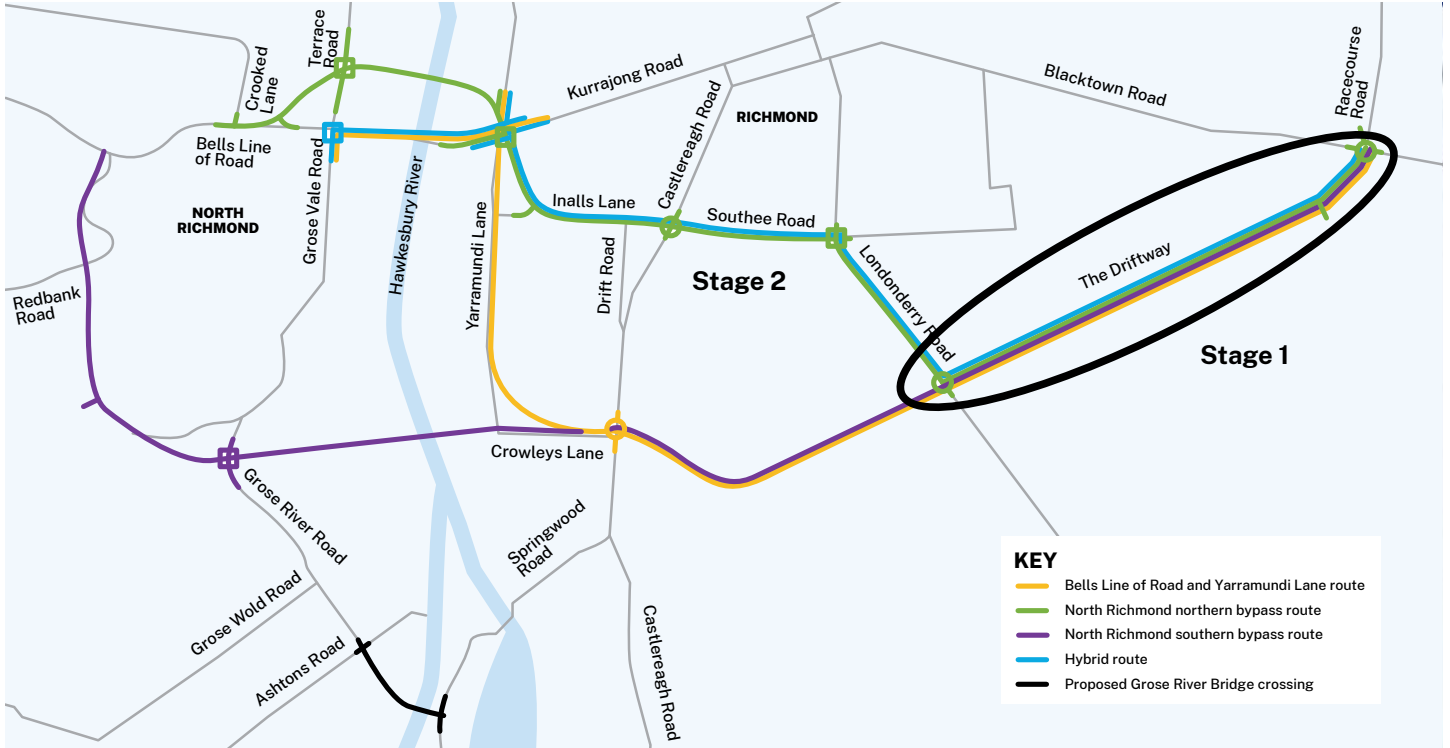


The Driftway

New Richmond Bridge and traffic improvements

Stage 2 update

Following consultation with community and stakeholders in 2021 on a preferred option for Stage 2, we are undertaking investigations and carrying out further engagement to determine a final preferred option that best delivers traffic benefits, town centre amenity and flood resilience within the project's \$500 million budget.





Once Transport has completed the additional investigations and engagement, we will publish a consultation report that will provide a summary of the key issues raised and how we will take those issues into account in the next phase of the project. The consultation report will also announce the final preferred option and provide details on process and assessment completed in confirming it.

We expect to publish the consultation report later this year.

Contact us

If you have any questions or would like more on the New Richmond Bridge and traffic improvements – The Driftway Stage 1 project, please contact our project team:

 **1800 370 778**

 **richmondbridge@transport.nsw.gov.au**

 **<https://nswroads.work/NewRichmondBridge>**



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 370 778**