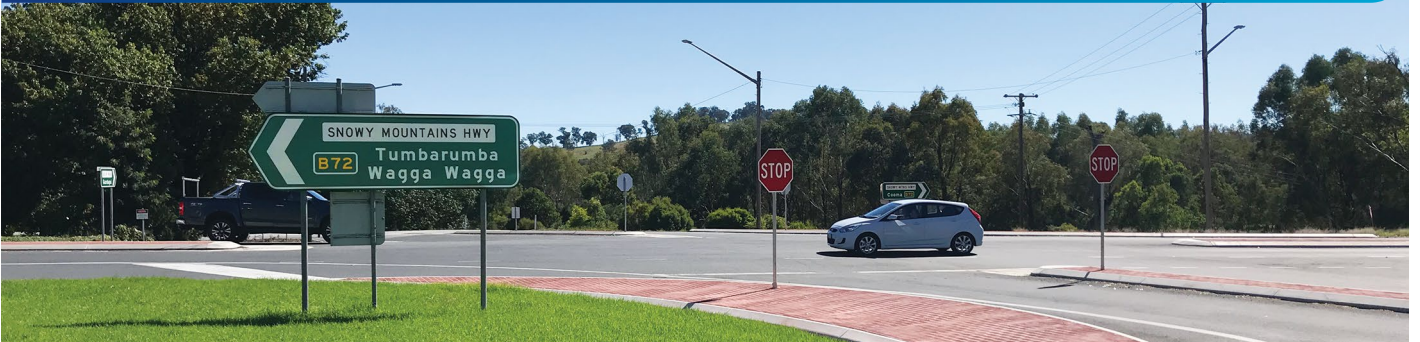




Transport for NSW

Planning continues on Tumut intersection upgrade

Community update | May 2021



Tumut intersection

Transport for NSW is working quickly to address safety concerns at the intersection of Snowy Mountains Highway and Gocup Road, Tumut. As a part of the Safer Roads Program, this busy junction will be upgraded to a roundabout to improve the safety of all road users.

Overview

The Tumut intersection upgrade is an important project to address safety and traffic efficiency concerns at the junction of Snowy Mountains Highway and Gocup Road.

In 2020, Transport for NSW engaged the Centre for Road Safety to investigate treatments that would provide the best possible safety outcome for the community. Of all the options considered, a roundabout was identified as offering the highest safety performance and best addressed the community's specific safety concerns.

We are liaising with Snowy Valleys Council to identify what work can be carried out to best support council's future plans for pedestrian access and mobility in the area.

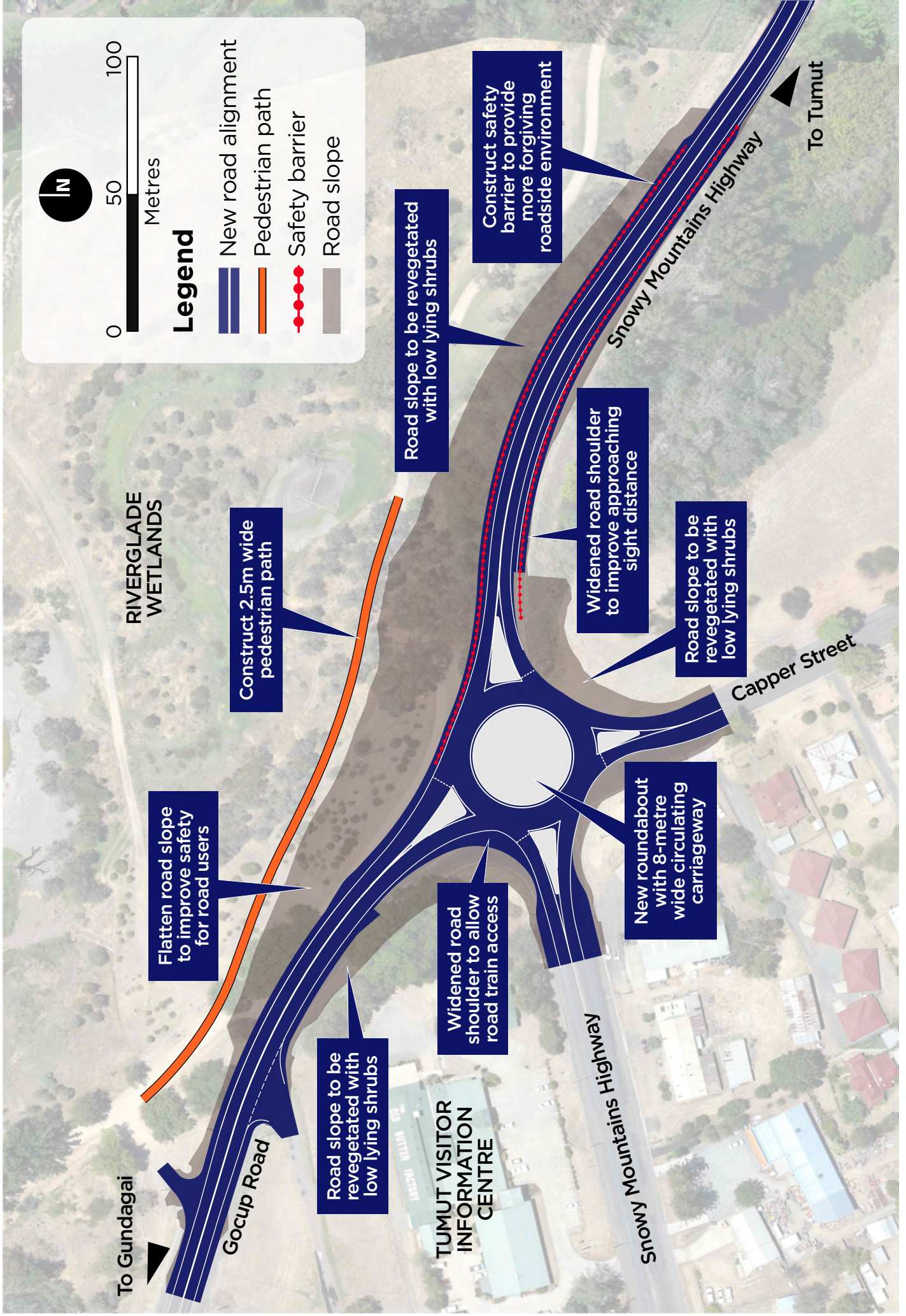
Key features

- New roundabout
- Improved intersection visibility
- Sealing of shared path entry to Tumut wetlands
- Minor provisions for improved mobility
- Native revegetation
- Improved intersection lighting
- Overhead powerlines removed and placed underground.

Key benefits

The upgrade work will improve:

- Safety for all road users
- Traffic flow and efficiency
- Connections to regional communities
- Intersection visibility.



Why a roundabout?

Many different options were investigated, but a roundabout provides the highest safety performance and best addresses the community's specific safety concerns.

Roundabouts help make intersections safer by:

- reducing vehicle speeds, making it easier to choose a safe gap in traffic
- minimising the impact angles of approach, leading to lower severity crashes
- having significantly fewer conflict points
- directing motorists in one direction
- reducing the risk of being seriously injured by up to 85 per cent.

Studies have shown roundabouts are safer than traffic lights, improve traffic flow and are more efficient for heavy vehicles.

Why not move the intersection?

We understand the community is still keen to progress a solution that involves moving the intersection to bypass the current location and closing Gocup Road, one of the options considered by the Centre for Road Safety during its review late last year.

This option was not progressed because moving the intersection, closing the existing Gocup Road connection and building a T-intersection on the new Gocup Road alignment to allow for property access would only create other safety issues and possible collision points at each of the new intersection locations.

This would lead to a reduced safety outcome compared to the proposed roundabout at Tumut intersection.

An alternate intersection location would also take much longer to build due to property acquisition, complex environmental requirements and possible changes to the highway.

As safety is the key driver for this project, a roundabout at the current location is preferred.



Gocup Road towards Tumut intersection

Safety is our priority

Transport for NSW has already made significant improvements to the intersection. These include the addition of advanced warning signs and vehicle-activated signage, enhanced line marking as well as reducing the speed limit on Snowy Mountains Highway. In addition to this, we will continue to work closely with council to facilitate the improvement of pedestrian accessibility.

Next steps

In October 2020, Transport for NSW announced work to build a roundabout at this intersection would start as soon as practicable. The project is currently in the detailed design phase.

A site survey and geotechnical investigations have been completed. We are also in the early planning phase for utility relocations.

Our project team is in the process of speaking with landowners regarding the potential acquisition of nearby land to provide space for the new road alignment and roundabout.

We understand this project is a high priority for the local community and we are working quickly to install a roundabout to improve safety at this location.

We anticipate construction to start from late 2021 and be completed mid-2022. We will keep the community updated as the project progresses.


Project stages



*Timing is subject to project approvals and weather


We're here for you

We will continue to liaise with the community and stakeholders throughout the project. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact our project team:

 (02) 6923 6525

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