



Frequently asked questions

DECEMBER 2022

Safety improvements at Snowy Mountains Highway and Gocup Road intersection at Tumut

Is the project running behind?

- Initial work started in March 2022, with some delay due to wet weather and land access issues the project is expected to be completed by mid-next year.

What work has been carried out already on Gocup Road?

- Transport for NSW began safety improvements at the intersection of Snowy Mountains Highway and Gocup Road at Tumut in April 2020 to improve safety and efficiency for all road users.
- Safety upgrades in 2020 included the installation of vehicle-activated signs, medians, kerbs and a safety barrier. Vegetation was also removed, line marking and signs upgraded and the speed limit on Snowy Mountains Highway was reduced.
- These improvements, combined with installation of a roundabout, will assist in reducing the number of crashes, improving safety for the people of Tumut.

Why wasn't the intersection upgraded at the same time as the safety improvements in 2020?

- In April 2020 Transport for NSW carried out work to address the immediate safety concerns at the intersection.
- Undertaking the immediate safety upgrades allowed Transport for NSW to plan for a more permanent solution to improve safety for the people of Tumut.

What benefits are there to building a roundabout?

- 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, have fewer conflict points and direct motorists in one direction
- reducing the risk of being seriously injured by up to 85 per cent.

Why can't we put traffic lights at the intersection instead?

- Several options were considered when addressing the community's safety concerns. Of these, a roundabout was rated the highest in safety performance.
- Transport for NSW and the Centre for Road Safety investigated the option to put traffic lights in at the Snowy Mountains Highway and Gocup Road intersection. Both reviews found that traffic lights were not a suitable treatment at this location.

What are the crash statistics at this intersection?

- Crash statistics at the Snowy Mountains Highway intersection with Gocup Road (2015-2020) show 19 crashes, resulting in two deaths and five serious injuries.

What about the traffic lights that were announced in 2019?

- Transport for NSW and the Centre for Road Safety investigated the option to put traffic lights in at the Snowy Mountains Highway and Gocup Road intersection.
- Both reviews found that traffic lights were not a suitable treatment at this location. A roundabout was rated the highest in safety performance.

What other options were investigated during the Centre for Road Safety review?

- Options investigated as part of the review were traffic lights, roundabout, closing Capper Street, raising the intersection, closing Gocup Road and moving the intersection.

Why isn't moving the intersection considered the best option?

- Moving the intersection to bypass the current location was one of the options considered by the Centre for Road Safety during their review in May 2020.
- The review found that moving the intersection and closing the existing Gocup Road connection would create new safety issues and collision points at each of the new intersection locations.
- A roundabout was rated the highest in safety performance.

What role does council play in this project?

- The Snowy Mountains Highway intersection with Gocup Road is the responsibility of Transport for NSW.
- Transport for NSW will continue to work closely with the Snowy Valleys Council as a major stakeholder as the project progresses.

What are the traffic impacts for this project?

- The intersection will remain open throughout the project.
- Single lane closures, traffic control and reduced speed limits will be in place at times and may affect travel times.
- Capper Street closed in early November 2022 for improved safety and efficiency of the project. It will remain closed for the duration of the project.
- The intersection will re-open to two-way traffic during the Christmas-New Year period. Work will resume on the project in early January 2023 with traffic management in place.
- Transport for NSW will keep the community and motorists informed of traffic impacts.

What impacts will there be to pedestrians?

- Pedestrian access along Tumut Wetlands between Gocup Road and Snowy Mountains Highway will be closed from Monday 14 March 2022 for several Months.