

Transport for NSW

Braidwood and Bungendore transport study

Community consultation report

October 2023



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Acknowledgment of Country

Transport pays respects to Elders past and present, and recognises and celebrates the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of NSW.

Introduction

Transport for NSW (Transport) is investigating initiatives to improve the transport network within Braidwood and Bungendore.

The transport study focuses on key areas such as safety, congestion, holiday traffic, active transport, public transport and accessing public spaces. It is designed to evaluate infrastructure and service planning from now and into the future.

This future planning for a well-connected transport network focuses on all modes of transport for the community, from walking and cycling through to cars, buses, and trains.

Community consultation was held to gather local feedback about the general accessibility and connectivity of the transport network within Braidwood and Bungendore. The feedback in this report will help identify a range of actions that Transport and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council can implement to improve transport within Braidwood and Bungendore, and better manage holiday traffic, including public holidays.



Purpose of this summary report

This summary report focuses on the community consultation carried out from **Thursday 11 May** to **Friday 2 June 2023**.

It outlines communication and consultation activities carried out by Transport for NSW (Transport) for the purpose of seeking community feedback on the transport network within Braidwood and Bungendore.

This report also provides a summary of the results, comments and ideas received during the consultation period. Feedback received from the community, stakeholders, visitors, and transport users will help inform future planning.

Thank you to everyone who provided feedback during the consultation period. We are committed to working with the community as we continue to plan for the future.

Summary of consultation

Objectives of consultation

Transport consulted with the community on the general accessibility and connectivity of the transport network within Braidwood and Bungendore. Feedback was invited over a three week period from **11 May 2023** to **2 June 2023**. The objectives of the consultation were to:

- Understand community values and concerns around transport issues in and around Braidwood and Bungendore to inform preferred treatments.
- Obtain specific feedback on ways we can improve safety.
- Gain insight on how we can improve accessibility to transport infrastructure and services for all community members.
- Understand what the community feels will improve the performance and efficiency of the transport network.
- Encourage meaningful discussions with communities on how to address existing and expected future transport challenges.

Target audience

Our target audience included:

- Communities and residents in and around Braidwood and Bungendore
- Local businesses
- Transport users
- Visitors and tourists to the area
- Community interest groups
- Emergency services
- Schools
- Bus operators
- Other key stakeholder groups with an interest in the project.

How we consulted

An interactive online mapping tool was prepared to allow the community and stakeholders to easily provide feedback by pinning feedback on a map. This was the primary feedback tool and was available for the duration of the consultation period.

The interactive online mapping tool was promoted on all communication materials and via media release. It was linked on the project webpage and was also accessible from printed material which was displayed in businesses and community buildings within Braidwood and Bungendore. Participants were also able to access the feedback tool via direct link in an email blast. Community and stakeholders were also able to submit feedback via email.

Engagement activities

A range of communication tools and activities were used to encourage participation from a wide audience and enable the community and stakeholders to give informed feedback. Communication activities included media announcements, printed material, social media email campaign, and a face-to-face information session with community groups.

Details of the consultation and communication activities carried out are listed below. Examples of collateral distributed are available in Appendix A.

- Media announcement on Thursday 11 May 2023.
- New project webpage with project specific information including FAQs and link to interactive online tool.
- Email campaign on Thursday 11 May 2023 to registered stakeholders.
- Face-to-face information session with community groups on Wednesday 31 May 2023.
- Social media campaigns:
 - Braidwood targeted post –1 week
 - Engagement rate 15.47%. Above industry standard of 4.4%
 - Ad click rate of 3.3%. Above industry standard of 0.9%
 - Bungendore targeted post –1 week
 - Engagement rate 5.71%. Above industry standard of 4.4%
 - Ad click rate of 1.46%. Above industry standard of 0.9%
 - Braidwood and Bungendore targeted post –1 week
 - Engagement rate 5.92%. Above industry standard of 4.4%
 - Ad click rate of 1.51%. Above industry standard of 0.9%

Participation

Transport for NSW received more than 200 pins via the interactive online feedback tool from the community during the consultation period.

An online interactive mapping tool was the primary tool for collecting feedback during the consultation period. During the consultation period, we received:

- Feedback from 103 contributors
- 207 online interactive mapping tool pins/comments
- 24 email enquiries/submissions.

Comments submitted on the mapping tool were categorised into themes, such as:

- Access
- Heritage
- Cycleways
- Public transport
- Environment
- Footpaths
- Other.

In addition, meetings with key community groups were held on Wednesday 31 May 2023 where Transport staff were available to answer questions and receive feedback.

All feedback received through engagement activities has been considered in this report.

What we heard

The following pages cover a summary of community feedback.



Braidwood key themes

A summary of key themes raised by the community during the consultation.



Active transport infrastructure

Respondents reported general cycling facilities around Braidwood are poor, with a lack of both dedicated cycling infrastructure and end of trip facilities including secure bicycle parking, bicycle lockers and water bottle filling stations.

End of trip facilities at key destinations and a cycling network in the town would be seen as an improvement to cycling amenities according to the feedback.

The community also expressed a desire for a recreational shared path network to go around the towns border.



Safety and comfort

There are safety concerns for the crossing at Lascelles Street and Wallace Street (Kings Highway), for motorists, active transport users and in particular visitors to the town. Respondents expressed the intersection was confusing and could be improved by installing a roundabout or signals.

We also heard that some community members are opposed to upgrading the intersection as they feel it would affect the heritage aesthetic of the town.

Hazardous conditions were reported on Wallace Street (King Highway) between Lascelles Street and Duncan Street, with respondents alleging that several near miss incidents have been experienced at this location due to the traffic flow. Respondents recommended the crossing be replaced with a signalised crossing.

Lighting concerns in recreational areas such as Ryrie Park as well as along some local roads like Lascelles Street were identified in the feedback. The current lighting was said to be inadequate with upgrades recommended by respondents to improve safety for motorists and pedestrians.

Additional traffic was reported on local roads as a result of traffic congestion on the Kings Highway, usually experienced on public holidays and in peak holiday periods. Responses noted that motorists are using the local roads to avoid delays caused by traffic congestion and have been allegedly observed travelling faster than the signposted speed limit, resulting in residents feeling unsafe. This was noted as occurring in McKeller Street, Elrington Street, Wilson Street and Monkittee Street.



Amenity and use

Pedestrian amenities are described as being poor in some areas of the town of Braidwood, especially away from the main roads. Respondents noted that several footpaths and gutters do not cater for disability access, prams or the elderly, including mobility scooters.

On-street parking facilities were found to be inadequate to deal with weekend or public holiday demand. The attraction of tourists wanting to stop in the town for a rest break or to use the amenities around the town put an increased strain on the parking facilities with many community members commenting they struggled to find parking in these times. Respondents also noted that due to the lack of parking, businesses are suffering reduced customer flow. Feedback included requests to explore off-street parking opportunities.

Requests were made for an Electric Vehicle (EV) charging station close to the businesses on the Kings Highway as there are currently no charging stations in Braidwood.

Lack of heavy vehicle parking opportunities for drivers to take a convenience stop was also noted.



Access and connection

Responses requested additional public transport services, noting the need for improved connections between Braidwood and Bungendore and the surrounding areas including Canberra.

Public transport options to travel out of town were deemed poor. It was noted that there is only one bus service arriving in Braidwood in the morning, with one afternoon service to Canberra. This does not currently serve people travelling to Canberra or other locations out of town for work.

It was noted that the lack of public transport services results in the use of private vehicles, adding to the general congestion around Braidwood.

It is suggested that the buses to Bungendore be extended to Braidwood to help elderly residents, school students and the general public who currently rely on private vehicles.

We heard the community would like a bypass around Braidwood. Respondents said they feel the current heavy traffic flow is dangerous for active transport users and impacts local business due to congestion and lack of parking.



Character and form

Some community members feel the presence of heavy vehicles is affecting the character of the town. There were concerns that vibration from passing heavy vehicles is accelerating heritage building deterioration.

Bungendore key themes

A summary of key themes raised by the community during the consultation.



Safety and comfort

There are safety concerns at the intersection between Malbon Street and Ellendon Street, and several other locations along Malbon Street.

Respondents reported that it is difficult for pedestrians to navigate a safe crossing, especially during holiday periods.

Major concerns were raised for the pedestrian crossing at Bungendore Public School.



Amenity and use

Lack of pedestrian amenities such as footpaths was identified through the feedback received. Respondents noted that several footpaths and gutters do not cater for disability access, prams and the elderly including mobility scooters.

The pedestrian railway crossing on the Kings Highway was mentioned as not accommodating mobility scooters and prams. Mobility scooters and people with prams are forced onto the Kings Highway to cross the railway.

Access to Bungendore Park and oval was raised as being inadequate with feedback suggesting the footpaths approaching the park are poor.

Pedestrian crossing concerns were raised at several points along Malbon Street. Suggestions for improvements were noted in the feedback to cater for disability access, prams and the elderly.



Access and connection

Responses requested additional public transport services, noting the need for improved connections and frequency of services. Due to lack of public transport options for commuters, the majority of workers drive private vehicles to work which the community feels contributes to congestion issues.

Feedback suggests that buses to Bungendore be extended to Braidwood to help residents, especially the elderly and school children, who currently rely on private vehicles.

Consultation outcomes and next steps

Community feedback on this project is helping to develop plans for transport and infrastructure upgrades in and around Braidwood and Bungendore.

We will work closely with Council to develop plans to improve the general accessibility and connectivity of the transport network within Braidwood and Bungendore.

Hearing from the community about their concerns and experiences will help us explore ways to improve safety, congestion, holiday traffic, active transport, public transport, and access to public spaces.

We are committed to providing safe, efficient, and reliable journeys through Braidwood and Bungendore while maintaining the character and amenity of the town centres. This future planning for a well-connected transport network focuses on all modes of transport for the community, from walking and cycling through to cars, buses and trains.

Transport for NSW is committed to ongoing engagement with the community, Council, road users and key stakeholders as planning progresses.

Appendix A

Example of collateral distributed to community.

1. Poster displayed in various businesses and community venues

Transport for NSW

Have your say
Braidwood and Bungendore
Transport Study

If you live, work, visit or do business in and around Braidwood and Bungendore, we want to know what matters most to you when it comes to the future of transport in your area.

What is the Braidwood and Bungendore Transport Study?

We are reviewing the transport network within Braidwood and Bungendore to guide transport planning into the future.

Your feedback will help identify a range of actions that Transport for NSW and Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council can implement to improve transport within this area and better manage peak holiday traffic periods.

How to have your say

You are invited to provide feedback on the Transport Study by Friday 2 June 2023.

To provide feedback, visit:

transport.nsw.gov.au/braidwood-and-bungendore

Alternatively, you can send your feedback to:

Braidwood and Bungendore Transport Study
PO Box 477, Wollongong NSW 2500




Contact Us

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact our project team:


SouthProjects@transport.nsw.gov.au

To view the Transport Study, scan the QR code or visit:
transport.nsw.gov.au/braidwood-and-bungendore

2. Social media targeted to the local community.

 Transport for NSW 
11 May · 

👉 It's time for the Bungendore community to have a say! We'd like to hear what's important to you when it comes to transport in your area. Take our quick survey below 👉



The advertisement features a photograph of a 'welcome to Bungendore' sign made of dark wood, situated on a roadside. A silver car is driving on the road to the right. A red speech bubble in the top right corner contains the text 'Have your say'. A blue banner at the bottom of the image reads 'Consultation closes Friday June 2nd' and includes the NSW Government logo.

TRANSPORT.NSW.GOV.AU
Have your say 👉
Complete our survey 🙌 [Learn more](#)




 Transport for NSW 
11 May · 

👉 It's time for the Braidwood community to have a say on the future of transport! We'd like to hear what's important to you! 🚲 🚶 🚗 🚘 🚙




The advertisement features a photograph of the Albion Cafe, a two-story building with a balcony. A man and a woman are walking in front of the cafe. A red speech bubble in the top right corner contains the text 'Have your say'. A blue banner at the bottom of the image reads 'Consultation closes Friday June 2nd' and includes the NSW Government logo.

TRANSPORT.NSW.GOV.AU
Have your say 👉
Braidwood's transport [Learn more](#)

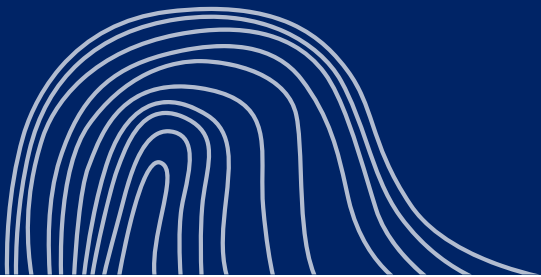
 **Transport for NSW** 
11 May · 

👉 We'd like to hear what's important to you! Have your say now on the future of transport in your community! Take our quick survey below.



[TRANSPORT.NSW.GOV.AU](https://transport.nsw.gov.au)
Have your say 👉
Complete our survey 📄

[Learn more](#)



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