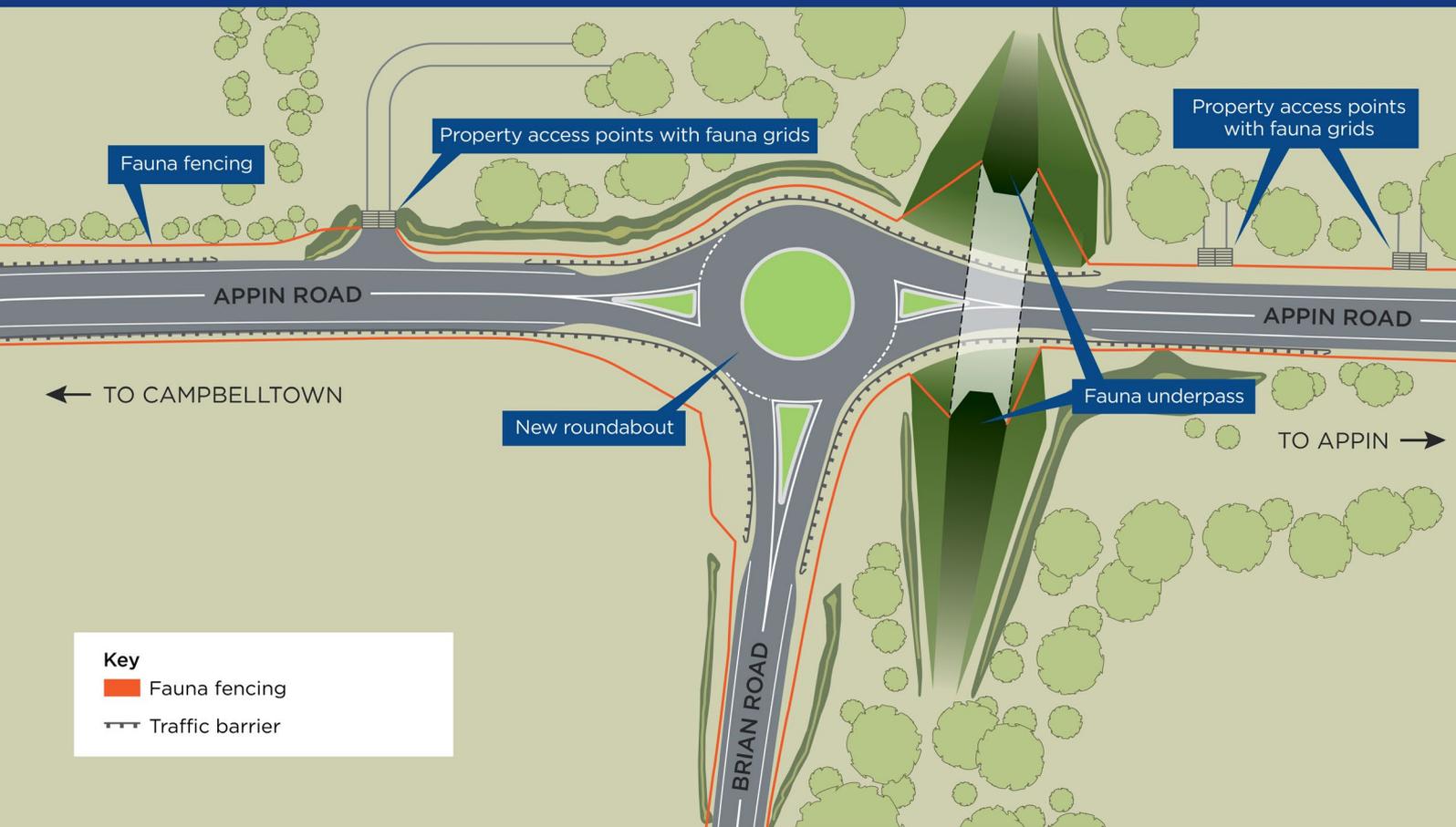


Brian Road Intersection Upgrade

Review of Environmental Factors

January 2023



Subject to detailed design

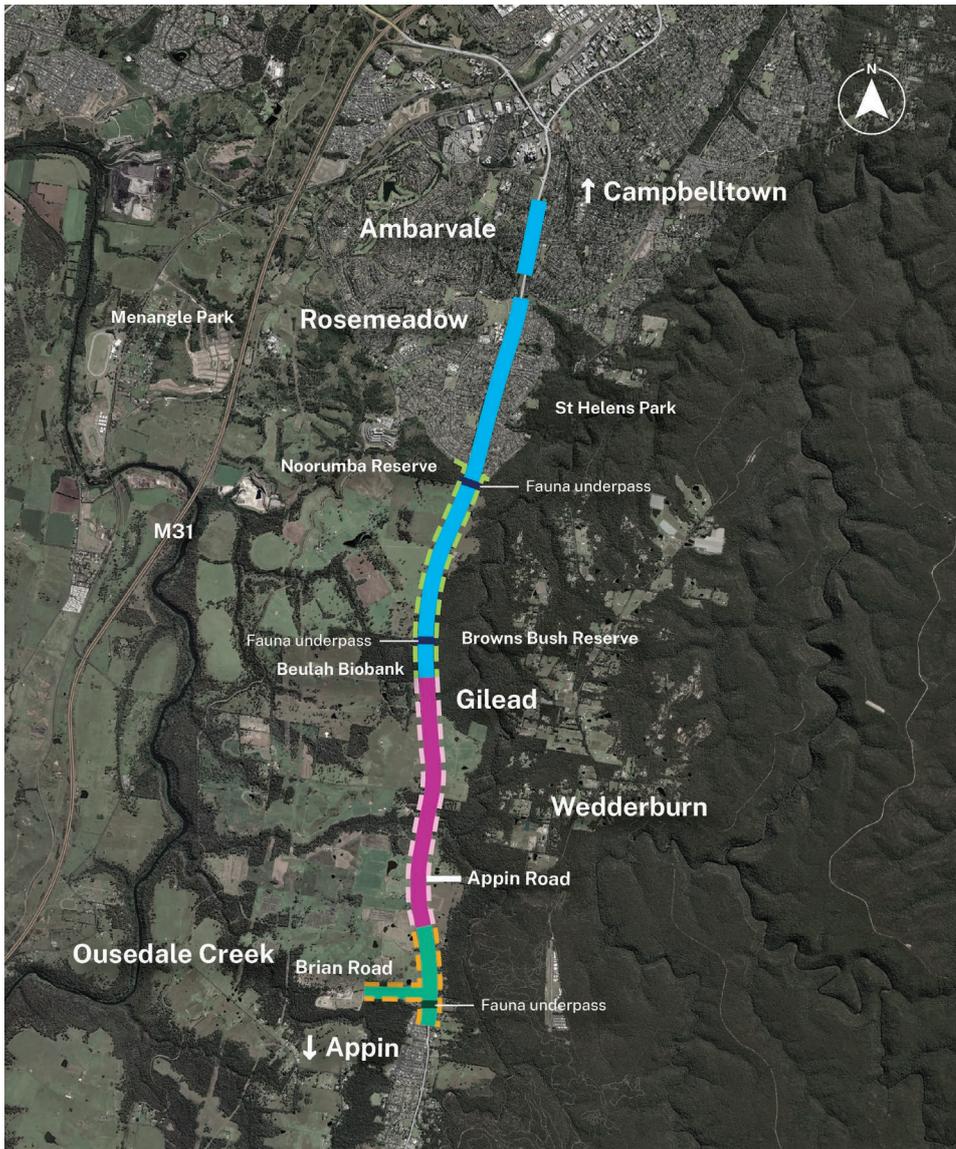
Have your say on the proposed Brian Road Intersection Upgrade

Transport for NSW is seeking feedback on a proposed upgrade of the intersection of Brian and Appin Road, Appin. The upgrade would include a new roundabout and fauna underpass.

Key features include:

- A new single lane roundabout at the intersection of Appin Road and Brian Road
- A new 2.4m diameter and 36m long fauna underpass under Appin Road, with refuge poles at the fauna underpass entrances and an elevated timber log through the underpass to aid movement
- A new vegetated fauna path to the new fauna underpass
- Road shoulder and embankment widening, and new safety barriers and fauna fencing along Appin and Brian Roads
- Fauna fence drop downs at either side of the underpass to allow trapped fauna inside the road reserve to escape
- Utility relocations, drainage, pavement markings, street lighting and signage.

What's on in Appin



Appin Road Upgrade, Rosemeadow and Mount Gilead

Planning is currently underway to deliver a 5.4-kilometre road upgrade between Mount Gilead and Ambarvale, delivered by Lend Lease, which includes intersection upgrades, widening part of the road from two to four lanes, and construction of new intersections to provide access to the approved Figtree Hill community project. In addition, two koala underpasses and additional fauna fencing are proposed to increase protection for the local koala population.

The community was able to have their say on the Addendum to the Review of Environmental Factors between 22 November and 13 December 2022. The feedback is currently under assessment.

Appin Road Safety Improvements

Several targeted safety improvements are proposed for south of Beulah Biobank on Appin Road to improve safety and create better journeys for residents, road users and freight operators.

Fauna fencing would also be installed to discourage fauna from entering the road corridor.

Early planning was undertaken in 2018, with further planning in progress.

Brian Road Intersection Upgrade (this REF)

The proposed intersection upgrade of Brian Road and Appin Road will include the construction of a roundabout and additional safety measures for road users and fauna, including the construction of a new fauna underpass, fauna fencing and safety barriers.

KEY

Brian Road Intersection Upgrade (this REF)	Appin Road Upgrade (under assessment)	Appin Road Safety Improvements (proposed)
Fauna underpass (this REF)	Fauna underpass (under assessment)	Fauna fencing (proposed)
Fauna fencing (this REF)	Fauna fencing (under assessment)	

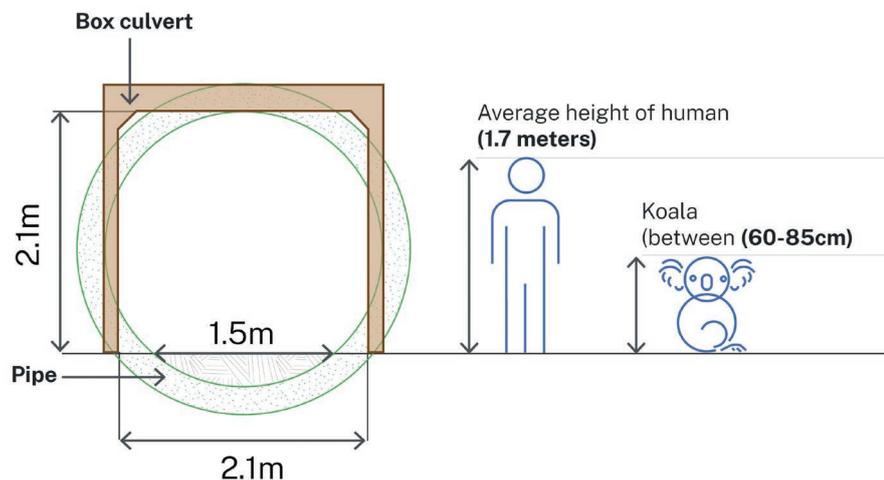


Figure 1 Comparative size of the proposed fauna underpass near Brian Road showing the size difference between a pipe and box culvert.

Interior of underpass is subject to detailed design and will include additional fauna furniture.

Frequently asked questions

Why is this project important?

Appin Road is a key arterial road which connects road users travelling between south-western Sydney and the Illawarra. Locally the road services the suburbs of Appin, Gilead and Rosemeadow.

A safety review of Appin Road identified several opportunities to improve safety, such as by widening shoulder widths and improving the intersection at Brian Road. As such, Transport proposes to construct a roundabout at the Brian Road intersection as well as road widening and installing safety barriers along Appin Road.

A fauna underpass has also been proposed at the intersection to connect koalas near Ousedale Creek travelling between the Georges River Reserve and Nepean Corridors.

The koala underpass implements one of the key recommendations of the Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan and addresses a key issue identified in the Campbelltown Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management.

In developing this underpass Transport has worked with the Department of Planning and Environment and sought advice from the Office of the NSW Chief Scientist and Engineer to protect koalas and other native fauna in the area from death and injury on roads. Two further fauna underpasses near Mount Gilead and Ambarvale are under assessment as part of the Appin Road Upgrade, Mount Gilead to Ambarvale project. Further fauna protections as part of the Brian Road Intersection Upgrade will include fauna fencing and koala grids.

Further safety upgrades and improvements are also planned along the rest of Appin Road, with more information at nswroads.work/appinroad.

What expert advice are you using to ensure you protect koalas?

The proposal is in line with the update to Greater Macarthur 2040, the NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer's report (OCSE 2020 & OCSE 2021) and the Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan (CPCP) which was finalised in August 2022.

Why is the underpass a pipe and not a box culvert?

Many different options were assessed when developing the underpass design. As displayed in Figure 1, using a pipe will ensure an underpass is similar in usable size to a box culvert. There are considerable advantages in

using a pipe rather than a box culvert, as identified in lessons learnt from the Pacific Highway project.

The advantages of a pipe include:

- a significant reduction in traffic impacts and construction timing due to not needing to construct a base slab
- reduction in vegetation clearing due to reduced excavation and drainage impacts
- proven success of a similar structure constructed along Wardell Road, Ballina NSW.

How will you know if the underpass works?

The proposed underpass, in association with exclusion fencing, has a strong likelihood of success based on evidence of koalas using similar structures on other road projects, including along Wardell Road, Ballina NSW.

Transport for NSW will actively monitor the underpass to assess its use and ensure it remains suitable for fauna.

What happens if there is a bushfire?

The underpass would increase connectivity and allow koalas and other fauna to access refuge in times of stress, drought or other threats.

How does a fauna fence work?

Koalas typically move between trees by travelling along the ground rather than from branch to branch.

The proposed fencing would help guide koalas to the new underpass, enabling their safe crossing under Appin Road.

The proposed fencing would include installation of koala grids at any access points to Appin Road. The fencing will be tied in at these grids to incorporate a fenced return.

Will vegetation be removed?

While the proposal has been designed to avoid and minimise tree and vegetation removal as much as possible, around 97 trees and seven hollows would be removed to facilitate the widening of the road shoulder, construction of the roundabout and fauna underpass.

However, to minimise impact, Transport would plant a minimum of 406 trees and install 21 artificial hollows to replace those that are removed, including by planting koala feed trees close to the fauna underpass to encourage koalas to use it.

Should tree replacement not be able to be accommodated locally, an equivalent contribution would be made to the Transport Conservation Fund for use in conservation projects by Transport and partners.

The planning process



Review of Environmental Factors

The Review of Environmental Factors (REF) is a planning document outlining the proposed work, potential impacts and mitigation measures. The document includes comprehensive assessments on the existing environment and potential impacts of the project on the following areas including traffic and transport, biodiversity, heritage, noise and vibration and visual impacts.

Have your say

The Review of Environmental Factors (REF) is on public display from 25 January until 24 February 2023, and community feedback is invited during this time. To view the REF, please scan the QR code or visit nswroads.work/brianroad



Feedback can be submitted by:

 projects@transport.nsw.gov.au

 yoursay.transport.nsw.gov.au/brian-road-intersection-upgrade

 Mail: Brian Road Intersection Upgrade REF, Transport for NSW PO Box 973 Parramatta CBD NSW 2124

Your feedback will help Transport for NSW understand what is important to the community.

 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 684 490**. The interpreter will then assist you with translation.

Meet the team

The project team will be out and about in the community to answer your questions during the display period. You can join us at one of the events below.

Bradbury Markets on The Parkway

When: Saturday 4 February 9am to 12pm.
Where: 100 The Parkway, Bradbury NSW

IGA Appin (stand located outside the store)

When: Saturday 11 February 10am to 2pm.
Where: 80-82 Appin Road, Appin NSW

For more information about our project:

Phone: 1800 684 490 • Email: projects@transport.nsw.gov.au • Web: nswroads.work/brianroad

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