

To the householder



Transport
Roads & Maritime
Services

MARCH 2013

Dear Resident

Woolgoolga to Ballina Pacific Highway upgrade Proposed refinements to the Maclean interchange and access to Townsend and Gulmarrad

Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) is continuing with the 155 kilometre upgrade of the Pacific Highway from Woolgoolga to Ballina.

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was on display for community comment from 12 December 2012 until 18 February 2013. Following community feedback received during the display of the EIS, the project team has developed alternative options to the design of the Maclean interchange and access to Townsend and Gulmarrad.

This update outlines two alternative options and explains how to provide RMS with community feedback on these alternatives.

Access to Townsend and Gulmarrad

RMS is considering two alternative access options (in addition to the original concept design detailed in the exhibited EIS). These two potential options and their assessment are detailed below. Please also refer to the diagrams on page 3.

Current design in the EIS (access via Jubilee Street)

Features:

- Provides a southbound off-ramp and access road into Jubilee Street from the highway upgrade.
- Access into Townsend and Gulmarrad from Maclean and the northbound carriageway of the upgraded highway would be via a two-way access road from the interchange north to Jubilee Street.
- A roundabout at Jubilee Street would connect the southbound highway off-ramp to the two-way access road and access east along Jubilee Street.
- Vehicle access under Jubilee Street to Maclean would be removed, but pedestrian access to Townsend and Maclean would be retained by a pedestrian and cyclist path on Jubilee Street and under the highway.

Benefits:

- Opportunity to use Goodwood Street / Common Road access as alternative in future.
- No impacts to key biodiversity indicators, eg: threatened plant species.

Roads and Maritime Services

For more information:

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T (02) 6640 1000 | F (02) 6640 1001

More information is available at www.rms.nsw.gov.au/pacific

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Alternative option 1 – Alternate Goodwood Street access option

Features:

- Relocate the southbound off-ramp further south, past Jubilee Street with a direct connection at the interchange roundabout and to Goodwood Street.
- The access road into Townsend would be along Goodwood Street / Common Road to Brooms Head Road. This would require a new local road to be built connecting Goodwood Street to Brooms Head Road.

Benefits:

- Improved pedestrian and cyclist safety as southbound off-ramp is removed from Jubilee Street, removing conflict with traffic.
- Improved access to Gulmarrad, removing through traffic from Jubilee Street, Townsend.
- Relocation of the southbound off-ramp provides an opportunity to refine the boundary to eliminate the impact to the heritage property.

Alternative option 2 - Jubilee Street via alternate southbound off-ramp access option

Features:

- Relocate the southbound off-ramp, similar to option two.
- A two-way access road would then connect at the roundabout to provide access to Townsend.
- Southbound motorists accessing Townsend would exit on the off-ramp towards the roundabout and then back north along the access road to Jubilee Street.

Benefits:

- Improved pedestrian and cyclist safety as southbound off-ramp is removed from Jubilee Street, which removes conflicts.
- Opportunity to separate heavy vehicles and local traffic.
- Opportunity to use Goodwood Street / Common Road access as alternative in future.
- Relocation of the southbound off-ramp provides an opportunity to refine the boundary to eliminate the impact to the heritage property.
- No impacts to key biodiversity indicators, eg: threatened plant species.

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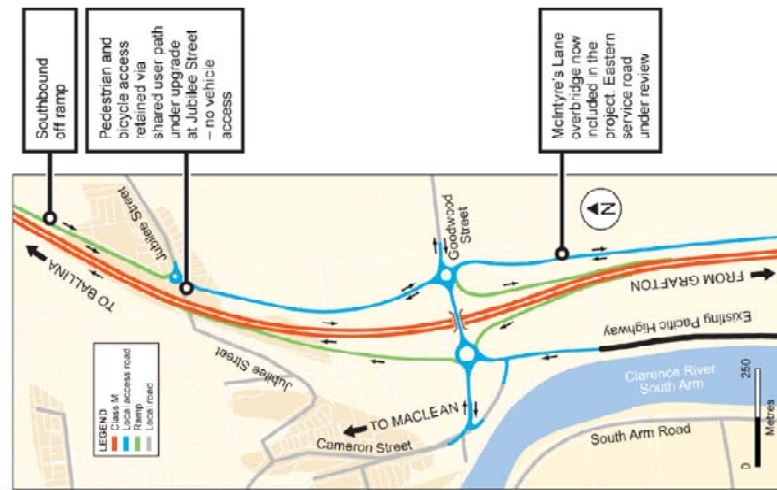
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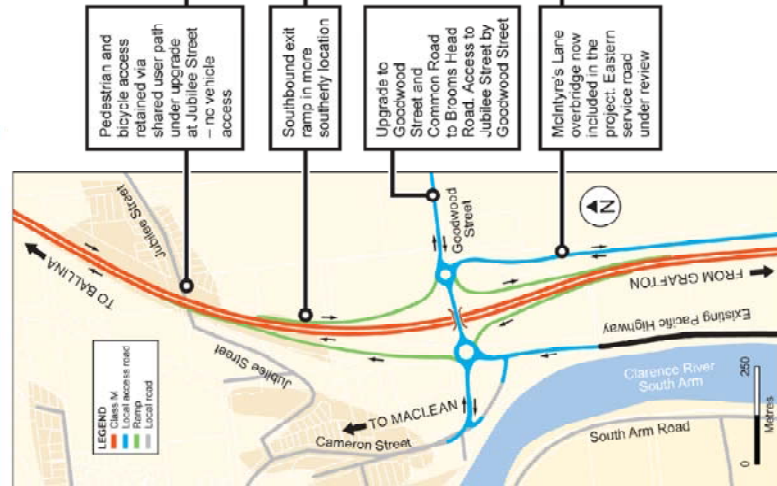
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Upgrading the Pacific Highway Maclean interchange alternative options

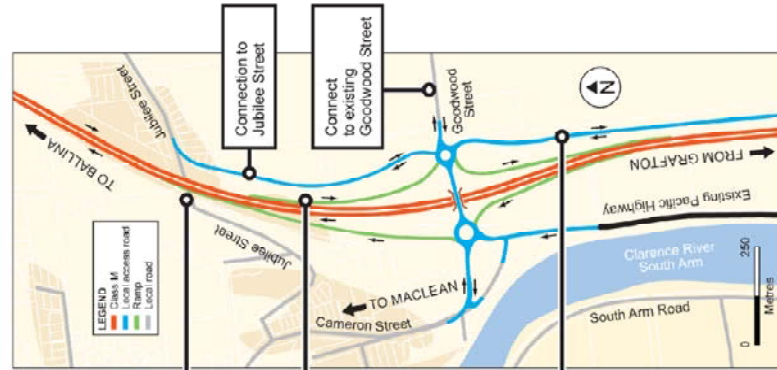
Current: EIS concept design (Dec 2012)



Alternative option 1: Upgrade to Goodwood Street



Alternative option 2: Connection to Jubilee Street



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Community information session and feedback

RMS is now seeking community input and feedback on the alternative options from Monday 18 March to Thursday 4 April 2013 (inclusive).

Email: w2balliance@globalskm.com

Post: PO Box 164, St Leonards NSW 1590.

Phone: 1800 778 900 (toll free)

The project team will also be available to hear feedback and discuss the alternative options at a community information session:

- Townsend Church Hall, Scullin St, Townsend.
- Monday 25 March 2013, 5pm until 8pm. A formal presentation will start at 6pm.

Next steps

Following community feedback on the alternative options RMS will select a preferred option for the Maclean intersection.

The preferred option will be submitted to Department of Planning and Infrastructure along with other design changes since the EIS display as part of a Preferred Infrastructure Report. The Department will review this report along with submissions made on the EIS to reach a decision on the project.

For more information on the Woolgoolga to Ballina Pacific Highway upgrade, please call the project information line on 1800 778 900 (free call), visit the project website www.rms.nsw.gov.au/pacific (click on Woolgoolga to Ballina) or email w2balliance@globalskm.com.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Garry R McPherson'.

Garry McPherson
Project Development Manager

Roads and Maritime Services

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