



# **New England Highway Camberwell**

Community Consultation Report

October 2020

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# 1 Introduction

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## 1.1. Background

Transport for NSW investigated safety improvements on the New England Highway between Glennies Creek and McInerney Road at Camberwell, as part of the Safer Roads program.

Our proposed improvements for the New England Highway safety upgrades project would reduce the risk of crashes.

Consultation for the proposed safety improvements was carried out in July 2020.

## 1.2. The proposal

The proposal of safety improvements included:

- installing a one metre wide painted centreline along a 350 metre section of the highway between 50 metres east of Lethbridge Street and 80 metres west of Glennie Street. The introduction of the centreline will improve safety by providing greater separation between vehicles travelling in opposite directions
- installing audio-tactile line marking along the edge and centrelines
- upgrading drainage on both sides of the highway
- installing a roadside safety barrier on the northern approach of the bridge over Glennies Creek
- improving line markings and installing new signage
- introducing a left in and left out at Alpha Street from the New England Highway. Motorists wanting to make a right in and right out at Alpha Street will need to use the McInerney Road intersection.

## 2 Consultation approach

### 2.1 Consultation objectives

We consulted with the community and key stakeholders on the proposal to:

- inform the community and stakeholders of the proposal and possible impacts
- seek feedback on the proposal and issues of concern for consideration in developing the detailed design and method of construction. The feedback will be incorporated into the environmental impact assessment.
- build a database of interested and concerned community members with whom we can continue to engage with during the proposal's development.

### 2.2 Values

Our values underpin our decisions and behaviours when working with customers, colleagues, stakeholders and partners.

- **Customer focus** - We place the customer at the centre of everything we do
- **Collaboration** - We value each other and create better outcomes by working together
- **Solutions** - We deliver sustainable and innovative solutions to NSW's transport needs
- **Integrity** - We take responsibility and communicate openly
- **Safety** - We prioritise safety for our people and our customers.

### 2.3 How consultation was done

We consulted with the community in July 2020 on the concept design. Community members were encouraged to provide their feedback, leave comments and make submissions via mail, email or phone contact with the Project Manager. Our key consultation tools are listed below:

**Table 1**

Project Notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Delivered via mail to 50 residents and stakeholders in the Camberwell area on Wednesday 8 July.</li><li>• A copy of the project notification is available at <b>Appendix A</b></li></ul>
Media Release	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A media release was published on the Upper Hunter MP's website Friday 17 July</li><li>• A copy of the media release is available at <b>Appendix B</b></li></ul>

Webpage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Project webpage updated Wednesday 8 July with latest project information.</li></ul>
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The Project Manager also consulted directly with Singleton Shire Council to seek their feedback on the proposed design.

## 3 Consultation summary

### 3.1 Overview

Comments on the proposed upgrade closed on Wednesday 29 July 2020, with six submissions received about a range of issues. Some submissions included multiple comments and raised multiple issues.

The feedback received in formal submissions raised a number of issues including concerns about restrictions to Alpha Street and current speed limit on the highway. Some issues were also raised concerning the surrounding road network, which are outside the scope of the project.

After considering all responses, along with the proposal's aims and design requirements, we have decided to proceed with the project with some changes.

Issue category	Number of submissions	Issues raised	Our response
Alpha Street	2	Opposes right turn restrictions	We have considered the feedback about Alpha Street and will no longer be banning right turn movements.
	1	Requesting right turn merging lane on the highway	
	1	Supports right turn restrictions.	
Speed reduction	4	Danger with current speed limit, with requests to lower to 80km/h	<p>We will be completing a speed zone review for the New England Highway at Camberwell.</p> <p>The speed zone review will assess a number of factors including crash history, road geometry, road environment, traffic volumes and the number of access points.</p> <p>We will notify the community of the outcomes of this speed zone review when it has been completed.</p>
McInerney Road	1	Lengthen right turn lane	

	2	Request for safety improvements such as widening	We are investigating the extension of the right turn lane into McInerney Road.  Any other improvements at this intersection would need to be considered for future funding.
	1	Request to restrict left turn in	
	1	Request deceleration and acceleration lane	
Glennie Street	2	Danger turning in and out of street	We will be widening the highway on approach to Glennie Street to improve safety for motorists turning left.
	1	Requesting left turn lane	
Signage	3	Concerns about sign posting at Glennie Street, McInerney Road, Alpha Street and Lethbridge Street	We will be improving signage at intersections along this section of the highway.
Vegetation	1	Request to better maintain vegetation.	We will be carrying out vegetation maintenance as part of the project.  For any future requests for vegetation maintenance please complete the online form at <a href="http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/contact-us">www.rms.nsw.gov.au/contact-us</a> or contact our Singleton Depo on 02 6575 2308.

### 3.2 Recommendations

A majority of feedback related to speed reductions and improvements to intersections.

Based on the feedback received, Transport for NSW will be carrying out further investigations to consider changes at McInerney Road.

We are also currently completing a speed zone review for this area as a result of the feedback we received. The result of this review will be available once finalised.

We will work closely with local residents and stakeholders in relation to the potential impacts of this project. We will do this by:

- informing the community and stakeholders of consultation outcomes and the next steps for the proposal via publication of this report
- ensuring community and stakeholder comments and suggestions are considered when finalising the detailed design
- continuing to carry out communication activities as the project progresses and informing the community through the Transport for NSW website and project notifications.

### **3.3 Next steps**

We have considered all submissions and will ensure our team is aware of concerns raised by the community. We will ensure that issues highlighted by stakeholders and the community are appropriately addressed when finalising the detailed design.

We will continue to keep the community informed of the project progress.

# Appendix A



July 2020

## Have your say - Proposed safety improvements on the New England Highway, Camberwell

The NSW Government is investing in safety improvements between Glennies Creek and McInerney Road to reduce the risk of crashes.

Transport for NSW is seeking your feedback on a proposal to improve safety on the New England Highway at Camberwell. We have included a map to show the proposed work which will involve:

- installing a one metre wide painted centreline along a 350 metre section of the highway between 50 metres east of Lethbridge Street and 80 metres west of Glennie Street. The introduction of the centreline will improve safety by providing greater separation between vehicles travelling in opposite directions
- installing audio-tactile line marking along the edge and centrelines
- upgrading drainage on both sides of the highway
- installing a roadside safety barrier on the northern approach of the bridge over Glennies Creek
- improving line markings and installing new signage
- introducing a left in and left out at Alpha Street from the New England Highway. Motorists wanting to make a right in and right out at Alpha Street will need to use the McInerney Road intersection.

### Audio tactile line marking

The proposal incorporates audio tactile line marking (ATLM) on the edge lines and centrelines along sections of the highway. ATLM, sometimes called 'rumble strips', are small raised bumps which provide a noise and vibratory warning to a driver or rider who has drifted from their lane due to fatigue or poor visibility due to rain or fog.

We will directly contact residents living along these sections of the highway to seek feedback on the proposed locations of the ATLM.

### How can you give feedback?

You are invited to provide feedback by **Wednesday 29 July** to our Project Manager, Jason Walsh at [jason.walsh@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jason.walsh@transport.nsw.gov.au) or Jason Walsh, Transport for NSW Locked Bag 2030 Newcastle NSW 2300.

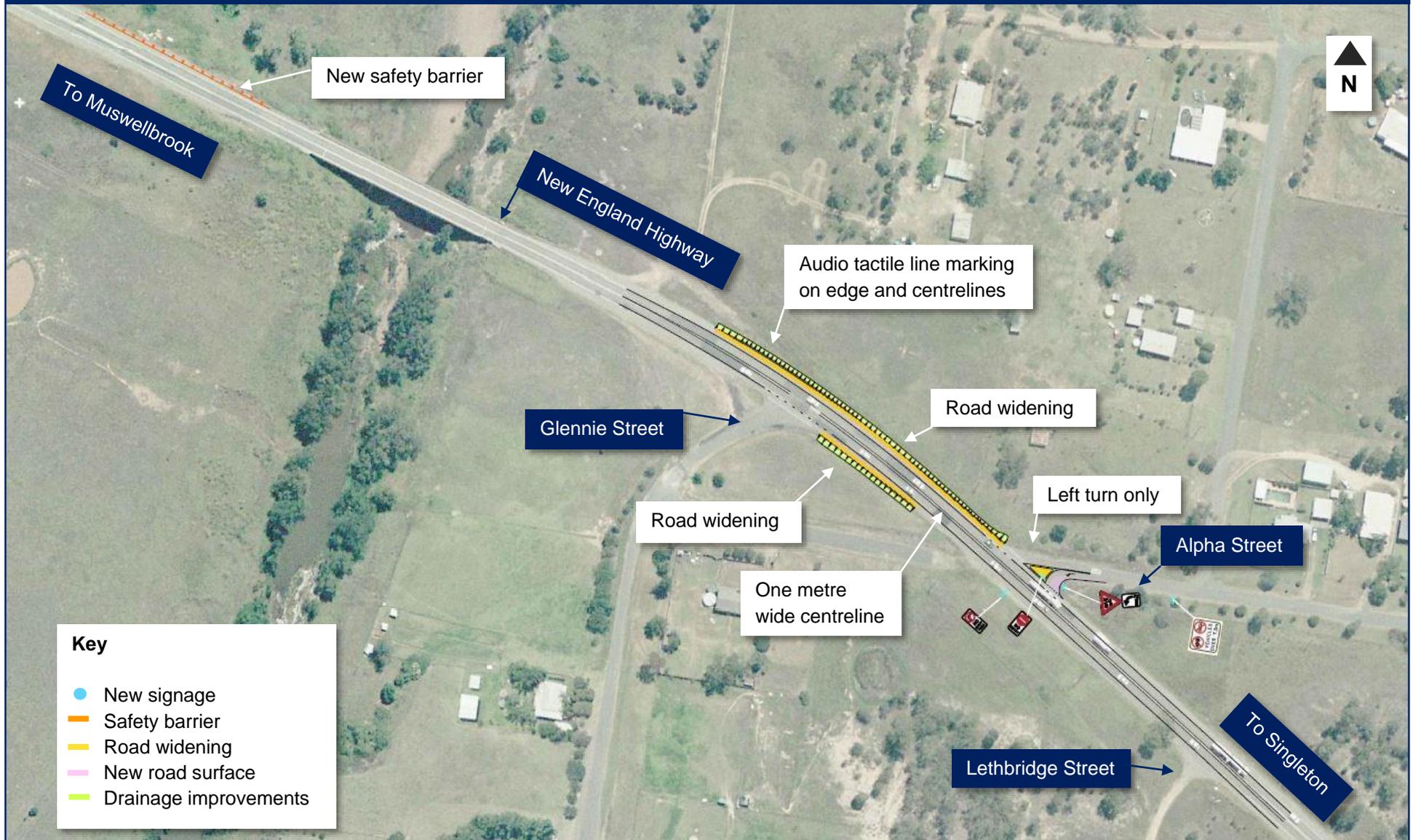
We will carefully consider your feedback and continue to keep you updated as the project progresses. Work is expected to start in late 2020, weather permitting.

### Contact

If you have any questions, please contact our Project Manager, Jason Walsh on 0436 454 028 or [jason.walsh@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jason.walsh@transport.nsw.gov.au).

For more information on our projects, visit [roads-maritime.transport.nsw.gov.au](http://roads-maritime.transport.nsw.gov.au).

## Proposed safety improvements on New England Highway, Camberwell



If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 0436 454 028.

# Safety Upgrades For New England Highway At Camberwell

July 17, 2020

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Michael Johnsen MP, Member for the Upper Hunter today announced that local Camberwell community is invited to have its say on safety improvements being proposed for the New England Highway at Camberwell.

Mr Johnsen said the NSW Government is investing \$306,000 from the Safer Roads program for improvements to reduce the risk of crashes between Glennies Creek and McInerney Road.

“This involves installing a one-metre-wide painted centreline along a 350-metre section of the highway, from 50 metres east of Lethbridge Street to 80 metres west of Glennie Street,” Mr Johnsen said.

“The centreline will improve safety by providing a greater separation between vehicles travelling in opposite directions.

“Work will also involve installing audio-tactile line marking – also known as ‘rumble strips’ – along the edge and centrelines to provide a noise and vibratory warning to a driver or rider who has drifted from their lane.”

Other proposed measures include upgrading drainage on both sides of the highway, installing a roadside safety barrier on the northern approach of the bridge over Glennies Creek, improving line markings, and installing new signs.

A left in and left out at Alpha Street is also being proposed. Under this scenario, motorists wanting to make a right in and out of Alpha Street on to the New England Highway would need to use the McInerney Road intersection.

Further information about the proposal, including a design layout, is available to view at <https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/new-england-highway/neh-safety-improvements-camberwell.html>

Community members interested in having a say on the proposals are encouraged to email [jason.walsh@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jason.walsh@transport.nsw.gov.au) or write to Jason Walsh, Transport for NSW, Locked Bag 2030, Newcastle NSW 2300 by 29 July.

All feedback will be carefully considered and the community kept informed as the proposal progresses.