

NOVEMBER 2014



Riverstone and the North West Growth Centre

## Proposed road network strategy for the North West Growth Centre

The NSW Government is funding the development of a road network strategy in response to the North West Growth Centre (NWGC), which is expected to expand to about 200,000 new residents in the next 20–30 years. That's nearly equivalent to the population of Wollongong, NSW's third largest city.

Riverstone is an integral part of the NWGC and the expected increase in population and development of local employment hubs including Box Hill, Riverstone West and Marsden Park industrial precincts will mean significantly more traffic in the area. This will result in increased congestion on the

overall road network, including on Garfield Road and around the rail level crossing.

Roads and Maritime Services has developed a road network strategy to address this growth and congestion and we are seeking your feedback until **February 2015**.

## About the strategy

The primary aim of the road network strategy developed by Roads and Maritime is to identify the crossings of the Richmond railway line necessary to effectively manage traffic and heavy vehicle movements across the NWGC.

The strategy:

- Addresses feedback Roads and Maritime has received from the Riverstone community.
- Supports immediate needs and long-term impacts of the NWGC.
- Was developed based on the findings of a traffic and transportation study (the Summary Report of the Traffic and Transport study is available online).
- Had input from key stakeholders including the Member for Riverstone and representatives of the Department of Planning and Environment, Transport for NSW, Blacktown City Council, Hawkesbury City Council and Roads and Maritime.

The road network strategy identifies the need for five grade-separated crossings of the Richmond Rail line north of Quakers Hill Parkway:

- Burdekin Road, Quakers Hill (planned)
- Westminster Street bridge, Schofields (existing with limited capacity)
- Schofields Road, Schofields (in progress as part of the Schofields Road upgrade project, see page 5)
- Garfield Road, Riverstone (currently a level-crossing of the rail line)
- Bandon Road, Vineyard (currently a level-crossing of the rail line).

### Why do we need grade separated crossings of the railway line?

- Improve travel times for motorists
- Improve road and rail safety
- Improve traffic flow, vehicles not required to stop when train crosses

## Road network strategy for the North West Growth Centre

The map opposite identifies the grade-separated crossings highlighted in the strategy as necessary to support the current and future development of the NWGC.

Roads and Maritime has previously sought feedback from the community on a number of options including grade-separated crossings at Loftus and Victoria streets. Loftus and Victoria streets were eliminated as because of the likely environmental, social and heritage impacts and possible impacts to the already-zoned precincts in the NWGC.

The locations of the new crossings were selected in consultation with key stakeholders, with consideration of the community feedback already received and the traffic and transport study carried out by Roads and Maritime.

### About the new crossings needed

A crossing at **Bandon Road** was identified as the most suitable option because:

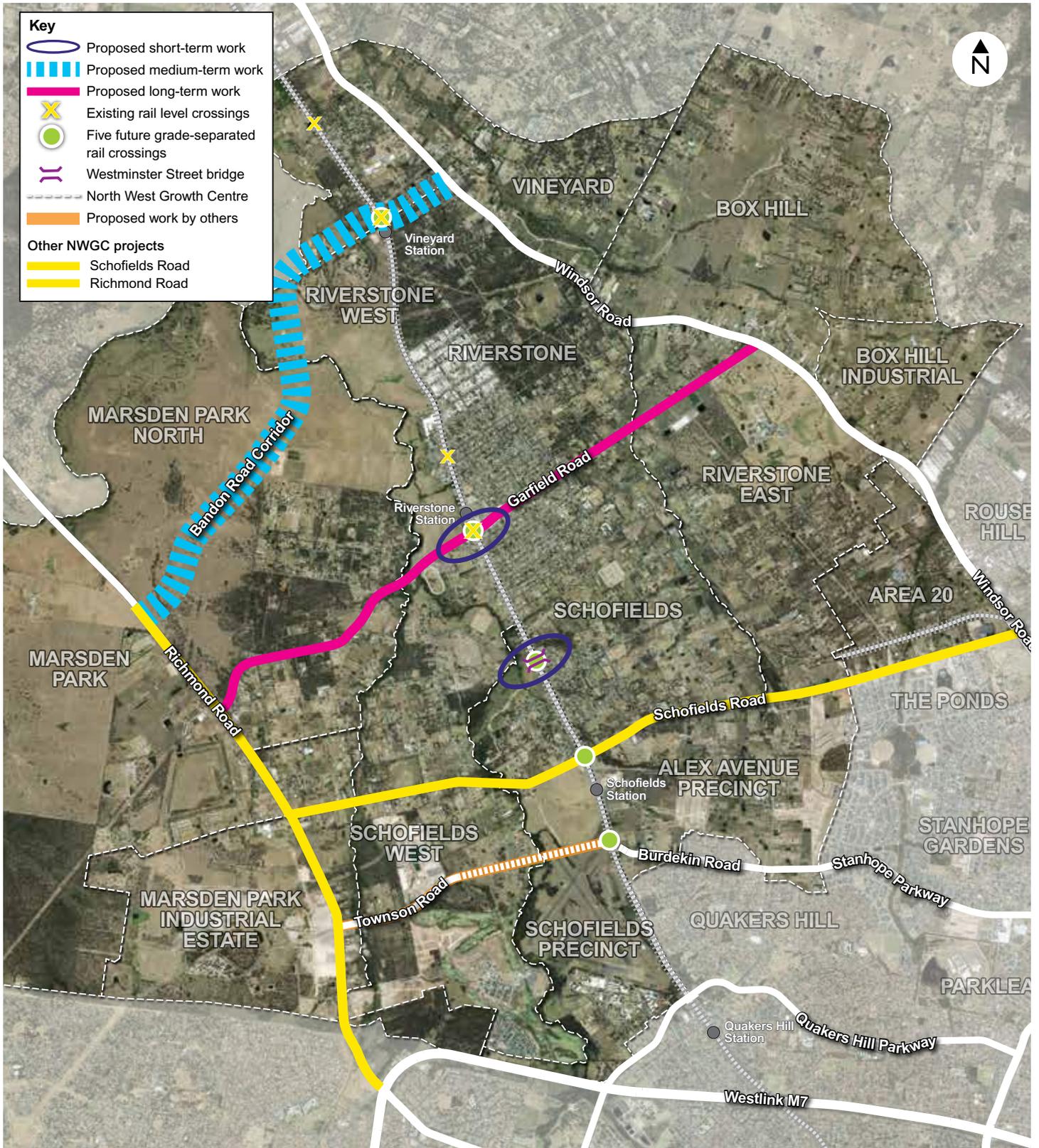
- The area is flatter, which would be easier for heavy vehicles to use. A crossing at Victoria Street would be steeper and would be less efficient for heavy vehicles.
- It would provide a route for heavy vehicles away from the Riverstone town centre. This was a community preference, expressed during consultation.
- It could be developed as part of the precinct planning currently being carried out by the Department of Planning and Environment for Vineyard and Marsden Park North precincts.
- It could directly connect to the already approved intersection at Richmond Road, reducing traffic congestion on Garfield Road West and creating an additional direct east-west connection between Windsor Road and Richmond Road.

The traffic study takes into account the completion of a new crossing at Bandon Road, and the other three grade-separated crossings of the rail line.

This assessment found that in the longer term, a grade-separated crossing of the railway line at Garfield Road would still be required in the future to meet the traffic demand of the fully developed NWGC.

This work would take place in about 20 years time once the population reaches about 150,000, which is about 75 per cent of the NWGC's capacity.

# Proposed road network strategy for the NWGC



## Delivering on the strategy

Roads and Maritime has identified the road network upgrades needed to implement the strategy and ensure the development of the NWGC is supported.

The proposed road network upgrades would be delivered in three key phases, subject to funding being available.

## Proposed short-term work to improve traffic flow within Riverstone town centre

- Work with Blacktown City Council to develop local strategies to improve traffic flow within Riverstone town centre and access to Westminster Street bridge.
- Begin planning for the Bandon Road underpass/link between Windsor Road and Richmond Road.
- Work with the Department of Planning and Environment and Blacktown City Council to reserve a road corridor along Garfield Road between Richmond Road and Windsor Road for future widening.

Roads and Maritime will also complete work on Stage Two of the Schofields Road upgrade between Tallawong Road and Veron Road during this period, which will create one of the required grade-separated crossings of the railway line for traffic travelling east-west.

## Proposed medium-term work to provide alternative routes for heavy vehicles

- Complete Stage Three of the Schofields Road upgrade between Veron Road and Richmond Road. Linking the grade-separated crossing provided in Stage Two of the Schofields Road upgrade to Richmond Road.
- Build the Bandon Road underpass and create a new road connection between Richmond Road and Windsor Road.
- Close the railway level crossings at Bandon Road and Level Crossing Road.

Roads and Maritime will continue working with the community and the Department of Planning and Environment to define the Bandon Road corridor.

## Proposed long-term work to manage future traffic impacts of the NWGC

To manage future traffic impacts for Riverstone and the wider north-west Sydney community, Roads and Maritime is proposing to:

- Upgrade Garfield Road between Richmond Road and Windsor Road
- Build a grade separated rail crossing in the Garfield Road corridor.

This work would take place in 20 years time when about 75 per cent of the NWGC is developed.

### Have your say

Roads and Maritime values your views and will host four community information sessions in November 2014 at various locations detailed on the back page. A formal presentation will not be given so please feel free to drop in at any time during these sessions.

We welcome your feedback on the proposed road strategy for the NWGC until **February 2015**. Roads and Maritime will continue to work with the community, the Department of Planning and Environment and the local councils to develop the proposal.

## Community consultation

Community feedback has been integral to the development of the proposed road network strategy for the NWGC.

During consultation about the proposed overpass in 2013 and 2014, the community highlighted their concerns about the current traffic congestion in Riverstone and heavy vehicles travelling through the town centre. Roads and Maritime also received feedback about the impact of an overpass on community amenity, local businesses, schools and property.

In response to the community's comments, Roads and Maritime expanded the scope of the project and developed the proposed strategy to address traffic congestion and heavy vehicle movements.

## Other projects in the area

### Richmond Road

Richmond Road is being upgraded between north of Bells Creek Bridge, Colebee to the South Creek floodplain. The road is being widened from two lanes to four lanes with provision for six lanes in the future.

Stage One between Bells Creek and Townson Road is complete and open to traffic. Work has begun on Stages Two and Three between Townson Road and 900 metres north of Garfield Road West and is expected to be complete in 2016.

The upgrade of Richmond Road from north of Garfield Road West to the South Creek floodplain at Marsden Park will take place as neighbouring development progresses.



Richmond Road Stage One, complete, July 2014.

### Schofields Road

Schofields Road is also being upgraded which will form a major east-west link from Rouse Hill and Marsden Park.

Stage One between Windsor Road and Tallawong Road is now complete. Work has begun on Stage Two between Tallawong Road and Veron Road. Planning is well advanced for Stage Three work between Veron Road and Richmond Road.

Construction will commence on Stage Three following completion of detail design and when funding is available.



Schofields Road Stage One, complete, June 2014.

## Our Planning Process



### Roads and Maritime Services

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All information in correspondence is collected for the sole purpose of assisting in the assessment of this proposal. The information received, including names and addresses of respondents, may be published in subsequent documents unless a clear indication is given in the correspondence that all or part of that information is not to be published. Otherwise RMS will only disclose your personal information, without your consent, if authorised by the law. Your personal information will be held by Roads and Maritime Services at 59 Darby Street, Newcastle NSW 2300. You have the right to access and correct the information if you believe that it is incorrect.

## Display locations

The proposed road strategy for the NWGC will also be on display at:

### Riverstone Library

1st Floor, Marketown, Corner of Market Street and Riverstone Parade, Riverstone NSW 2765

### Blacktown City Council

62 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown NSW 2148

### Vinegar Hill Memorial Library

9 Main Street, Rouse Hill Town Centre NSW 2155

## Community information sessions

**SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER** 11am – 2pm

Riverstone Neighbourhood Centre  
Sam Lane Community Complex  
Park Street, Riverstone NSW 2765

**TUESDAY 18 NOVEMBER** 5pm – 8pm

Vineyard Church  
357 Windsor Road, Vineyard NSW 2765

**THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER** 5pm – 8pm

Marsden Park Public School  
361-363 Garfield Road West  
Marsden Park NSW 2765

**SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER** 9am – 12pm

Rouse Hill Town Centre, Town Square  
White Hart Drive  
Rouse Hill NSW 2155

## For further information

If you need further information please contact us on:

Email: [RiverstoneNWGC@rms.nsw.gov.au](mailto:RiverstoneNWGC@rms.nsw.gov.au)

Phone: 1300 367 561

Mail: **Riverstone NWGC**  
**Roads and Maritime Services**  
**PO Box 973**  
**Parramatta CBD NSW 2124**



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