

Frequently Asked Questions

Pacific Highway and Manns Road upgrade, between Narara Creek Road, Narara and Parsons Road, Lisarow

September 2016

The NSW Government has provided \$2 million in 2016/17 to continue planning for a future upgrade of the Pacific Highway and Manns Road, to improve traffic flow and safety.

Comments on the concept design are invited by Friday 28 October 2016 and will be considered when developing the design.

Why is the upgrade needed?

A future staged upgrade of the Pacific Highway and Manns Road between Narara Creek Road, Narara and Parsons Road, Lisarow would have regional and local benefits, by supporting access to and from the Central Coast and the region.

During peak travel times motorists experience congestion and queuing along the Pacific Highway and Manns Road.

The proposed section for the future upgrade also has a history of crashes mainly near intersections and driveways.

The proposed 4.7km upgrade would address current congestion and future traffic growth, improve traffic flow, public transport and the efficiency of freight. It would also improve safety, reduce the risk of crashes, and improve access for pedestrians and cyclists.

The proposal is part of a broader strategy to upgrade the Pacific Highway on the Central Coast

between Wyoming and the M1 Motorway being delivered over four key stages:

- **Stage 1** – Upgrading the intersection of the Pacific Highway with Dog Trap Road, (completed July 2007).
- **Stage 2** – Widening the Pacific Highway between Glen Road and Burns Road at Ourimbah, (completed January 2010)

Stage 3 has been broken down into two stages to minimise community disruption:

- **Stage 3A** – Pacific Highway upgrade between Ourimbah Street, Lisarow to Glen Road, Ourimbah (construction started in January 2016)
- **Stage 3B** – Pacific Highway upgrade between Parsons Road to Ourimbah Street, Lisarow (in development)

- **Stage 4** – Pacific Highway and Manns Road upgrade between Narara Creek Road, Narara to Parsons Road, Lisarow (this project)

The proposed upgrade will also connect with a proposed future upgrade of Manns Road, between Narara Creek Road, Narara and Stockyard Place, West Gosford.

Is there expected traffic growth along the Pacific Highway and Manns Road?

Yes. Traffic volumes along the Pacific Highway are forecast to increase from 30,000 vehicles per day to 41,000 vehicles per day by 2039.

On this section of Manns Road traffic volumes are forecast to increase from 22,000 vehicles per day to 39,000 vehicles per day by 2039.

Building the road

When would upgrade work start?

The proposed design is part of the NSW Government's commitment to planning for future important road infrastructure. The project will be delivered in smaller stages, which are yet to be determined. At this stage there is no timing for construction.

The NSW Government has provided \$2 million during the 2016/17 financial year to continue planning of the upgrade. No further funding has been announced at this stage.

Visit rms.nsw.gov.au/nararatolisarow for the latest information.

How long would construction take?

At this time it is not known. Further details will be made available when the environmental assessment is prepared and displayed.

Have other options been considered?

Yes. A number of options have been considered in developing the upgrade of the Pacific Highway and Manns Road.

This option was selected because it provides better overall improvements to traffic flow and safety, considering impacts to the community and the environment.

Would there be a change in air quality once the road is complete?

An air quality assessment will be completed as part of the environmental assessment with appropriate mitigation measures in place for any identified air quality issues. This information will be published for community feedback as part of the public display of the environmental assessment.

Would the new traffic lights provide better connectivity?

A study into 30 year traffic projections found the number of traffic lights proposed as part of the upgrade would improve the existing road connectivity and provide better, safer access to and from local roads.

These lights would be synchronised with priority given to traffic flow on the Pacific Highway and Manns Road.

Will there be paths for pedestrians and cyclists?

Yes. The upgrade would greatly improve pedestrian and cycle facilities along the Pacific Highway and Manns Road, and connections would be provided to current paths.

Were roundabouts considered?

Additional roundabouts have not been considered as they have a limited capacity and are not appropriate for roads with high volumes of traffic entering the Pacific Highway.

Have you considered environmental impacts?

There have been early environmental investigations as part of the project to date, however Roads and Maritime would complete a detailed environmental assessment to assess potential impacts of the proposal and identify mitigation measures as the project proceeds.

This assessment would involve detailed studies of flora and fauna and visual, flood and detailed noise assessments. Protection of local roads and private property from flooding would be carefully assessed by Road and Maritime.

Information about potential impacts and mitigation measures would be available in the Review of Environmental Factors report. This would be displayed for community comments.

Will there be noise walls?

To minimise noise impacts of the completed road, Roads and Maritime will carry out noise assessment in conjunction with other environmental assessments during the development of the project proposal.

Noise walls along with all other means of noise mitigation would be investigated in more detail during Review of Environmental Factors.

There will be an opportunity for the community to provide feedback on proposed walls as part of the Review of Environmental Factors consultation.

Are the locations and heights of retaining walls on the map the final design?

Specifics such as locations and heights of retaining walls may change when finalising the design.

Would the upgrade improve drainage and flooding impacts?

Roads and Maritime would update and improve drainage infrastructure to help water flow in a flood.

How does this project link with other proposed upgrades along the Pacific Highway and Manns Road?

The proposal is part of a broader strategy to upgrade two key Central Coast road corridors:

1. Pacific Highway between Wyoming and Pacific M1 Motorway
2. Manns Road from West Gosford to Narara.

This stage would link the Pacific Highway upgrade between Parsons Road to Ourimbah Street, Lisarow and the proposed upgrade of Manns Road between Stockyard Place, West Gosford and Narara Creek Road, Narara.

For more information visit rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/central-coast



Manns Road towards West Gosford

Why has the Pandala Link Road replaced the Hanlon Street link from the 2014 update?

The proposed Pandala Link Road is more protected from flooding in a severe flood. This option would provide a safer exit for people between Carrington and Dean Streets, which are currently cut off in some flood events.

This link road also has fewer impacts on the environment and less utilities to move.

Will construction impact my business?

Roads and Maritime would work with local business during construction to make sure access for customers is maintained and impacts minimised however at this stage there is no timing for construction.

Property

Is the upgrade expected to affect properties?

A large number of properties are expected to be impacted through the widening of the road.

Roads and Maritime would need to purchase properties or partial land as part of the proposed upgrade.

Roads and Maritime is committed to working with property owners and local residents through the property acquisition process.

Find out more about the property acquisition process at rms.nsw.gov.au/acquisition

When will Roads and Maritime start talking to affected property owners?

Discussions with potentially affected property owners about the potential impact of this proposed upgrade have started.

It is important to have your say on the planned future upgrade of the Pacific Highway and Manns Road, including potential property impacts.

If you think your property will be affected please contact us. See *Have your say* section.

Will I still have access to my home during construction and when the road is completed?

Roads and Maritime aims to minimise impacts to property access, where possible.

We will work closely with property owners during planning and construction to minimise any impact to property access including, identifying alternative options and providing advance notice.

Where access to property cannot be maintained once the road is complete we will contact the property owner in advance to discuss options.

Have your say

Will you listen to community comments?

Yes. Comments from the community will be considered along with the results of investigations, to work out the final design.

What are the next steps?

Along with considering community comments, we will further the design, refine traffic assessments, carry out environmental studies, detail cost estimates and develop further flood modelling.

The next stage of the project includes finalising the concept design and completing a Review of Environmental Factors.

The community will be asked for feedback on future designs as part of our environmental assessment process.

How can I find out more information and have my say?

The community is invited to staffed drop in sessions at Niagara Park Stadium, 16 Washington Avenue, Niagara Park, NSW, 2250:

- Thursday 13 October: 4pm to 7pm
- Tuesday 18 October: 4pm to 7pm
- Thursday 20 October: 4pm to 7pm

For information about the project visit rms.nsw.gov.au/nararatolisarow

How can I provide comments?

You can contact us and provide comments, by:

Phoning: 1800 814 968

Emailing:

central.coast.office@rms.nsw.gov.au

Online: rms.nsw.gov.au/nararatolisarow

Writing: Pacific Highway and Manns Road upgrade
Roads and Maritime Services
Central Coast Office
Locked Bag 2030
Newcastle NSW 2300

Please send us your comments by **Friday 28 October 2016.**