



Australian Government

BUILDING OUR FUTURE



Tenterfield main street

Tenterfield heavy vehicle bypass

Project update – August 2017

The Australian Government is providing \$10 million to continue the planning of the Tenterfield heavy vehicle bypass. This update provides information on the project status, upcoming activities and early design work.

Project background

Roads and Maritime Services has been investigating a heavy vehicle bypass as part of the New England Highway corridor strategy. The preferred route was announced in March 2015 and an early concept design was developed to help identify the extent of the project in 2016. The preferred option was included in Tenterfield Shire Council's Local Environmental Plan in November 2016.

The preferred route for the heavy vehicle bypass was confirmed in March 2015 to provide a suitable road around Tenterfield instead of heavy vehicles passing through the town centre.

The proposed road starts just north of Tenterfield Creek Bridge on the southern edge of town, crosses the railway line north of Currys Gap Creek, runs west of the railway corridor and rejoins

the existing New England Highway near Cowper Street, at the north of Tenterfield.

This route was selected after extensive consultation with key stakeholders and the community. It was identified as the most suitable to support economic development, ecologically sustainable development principles and value for money.

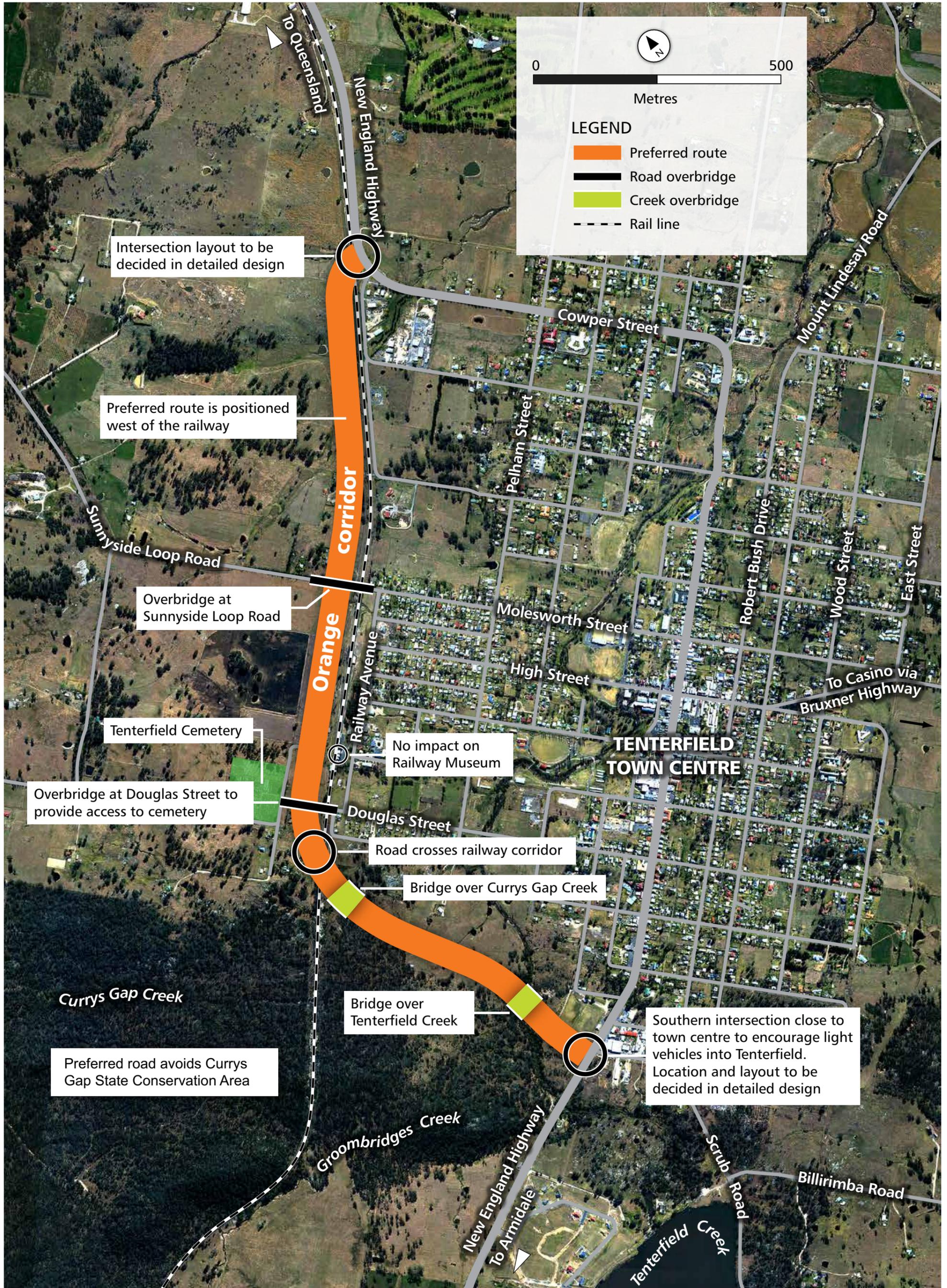
In July 2017, the Australian Government formally committed \$10 million to continue planning for this project to have it ready for construction once funding becomes available. This planning phase includes:

- field investigations
- finishing the concept design
- environmental assessment
- detailed design
- property acquisition.

Timing for building the bypass will depend on funding availability. Funding for construction has not been committed at this stage.



Tenterfield heavy vehicle bypass, preferred route, March 2015



Building timeframes for the bypass have not been determined and will depend on funding availability.

Project benefits

Benefits of the project include:

- improved road transport productivity
- improved travel efficiencies and reliability
- improved road safety.

Field investigations

Investigation work to refine the design and to help with an environmental assessment will start shortly. This will include:

- survey
- geotechnical investigations
- traffic studies
- wildlife and vegetation surveys
- utility and engineering surveys
- Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage surveys
- urban design assessments
- hydrology and groundwater assessments
- noise monitoring.

Access to properties along the proposed bypass will be needed before these studies can start. Members of the project team will soon contact property owners to seek access for the upcoming survey and geotechnical field investigations. We appreciate the co-operation of property owners during these investigations.

Next steps

We will continue to refine the design and prepare an environmental assessment over the coming months. Consultation with key stakeholders, including council and affected landowners will continue. We expect to display the refined design and environmental assessment after all feedback has been considered and investigations and field work completed.

Building timeframes for the bypass have not been determined and will depend on funding availability.

We welcome feedback and discussion throughout the project so please feel free to contact us with any questions. Additional project updates will be made available during the planning stage.

Community consultation

The project team will continue to keep the community informed as the project progresses.



For more information

For more information on the Tenterfield heavy vehicle bypass contact the project team at:

Phone: 1800 571 994 (toll free line)

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