

Waterfall Way community update



Transport
Roads & Maritime
Services

DECEMBER 2014

Work underway along Waterfall Way

The NSW Government is committed to delivering safe, efficient and high quality services and infrastructure to the communities along Waterfall Way. This community update provides you with an update about current activities occurring along Waterfall Way and how you can receive SMS alerts to stay informed.

Safety review update

In September 2014 Roads and Maritime Services, in conjunction with NSW Centre for Road Safety, released a road safety review report on the Waterfall Way in response to community concern about the increase of truck movements from local quarries.

The safety review examined the 40-kilometre section of Waterfall Way that stretches from the Pacific Highway to Dorrigo. The review investigated areas of concern and identified potential short, medium and long-term improvements or actions that could be progressed should funding become available.

The review focused on improving road safety, summarises community feedback, traffic volumes, crash statistics, heavy vehicles and road conditions.

Community workshops were held in September 2014 where members of the project team presented the report and findings.

To view a copy of the report please visit the project website at www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects (search Waterfall Way).

Would you like to be kept informed?

SMS alert system

Roads and Maritime has set up a SMS alert system to keep you informed of work being carried out on the Waterfall Way.

To receive SMS alerts about work being carried out on the Waterfall Way and to be kept informed, please register your mobile number by either calling 02 6640 1300 or emailing grafton.RO@rms.nsw.gov.au.

Outcomes from road safety review

We recognise the importance of progressing opportunities that will deliver immediate benefits to the community.

Roads and Maritime are progressing with implementing the recommendations made from the road safety review.

The main activities currently underway are summarised on the following page.

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For information on scheduled road work, visit www.livetraffic.com or outside business hours call the Transport Management Centre on 132 701

Update on Road Safety Review recommendations

Bellingen - High pedestrian activity area

Roads and Maritime is working closely with Bellingen Shire Council to improve pedestrian safety for the entire length of the Bellingen CBD.

Shortly Council will be asking the community to help in developing a concept plan and provide written feedback to Council.

The ideas and suggestions gathered from the community will help in developing the plan. The plan will focus on improving the urban landscape of the Bellingen town centre along the Waterfall Way. The aim of the plan is to encourage walking and cycling as the preferred modes of transport whilst contributing to the livability and vitality of Bellingen.

Heavy vehicles

Monitoring of traffic continues at four sites along Waterfall Way. Data is being collected each month to monitor all traffic on the road to assist in planning enforcement programs and heavy vehicle inspections.

The contractor for the upgrade of the Pacific Highway between Nambucca Heads and Urunga has developed an Action Plan to demonstrate to the community how it proactively manages project truck movements on Waterfall Way, including behaviour of drivers.

Heavy Vehicle Inspectors continue to monitor the road and will install temporary detectors at various times to provide additional information.

NSW Police enforcement

Police enforcement continues with additional police patrolling the road, targeting key road safety priorities in the area including speeding and drink driving.

Gordonville Cutting and Myers Bluff

Work is continuing at Myers Bluff and Gordonville Cutting to address minor landslips. Soils nails are being drilled into the road embankment to provide stability. Work will continue next year at these two locations to finish the repair of the road shoulders.

Landslip at Weeping Jenni

Work to repair a landslip at Weeping Jenni is progressing well, with both lanes now reopened. The cleanup is expected to be completed by the end of December 2014, weather permitting.

Fernmount signage

Roads and Maritime will be installing new road signs at Fernmount to meet current standards, including additional speed limit repeater signs, intersection and warning signs. This work is expected to be completed in December 2014.

Road safety education

Schools in the Bellingen valley have been contacted to assist with implementing specific road safety messages for students.

Changes to Give-Way signage

Major changes will occur in December 2014 to road signage on Dorrigo Mountain to improve road safety for all road users.

At Newell Falls and Sherrard Falls where the road is reduced to one lane, priority will now be given to motorists travelling up the mountain. Motorists travelling down the mountain will need to give-way to traffic coming the other way.

Adjacent to the low concrete wall, the road will also be reduced to one-way. New give-way signage will be installed giving priority to road users travelling up the mountain.

Sweedmans Lane project

Roads and Maritime is developing plans to improve road safety and the road condition east of Fernmount. Stage one will involve work to improve the surface, provide sealed shoulders and upgrade the intersection at Sweedmans Lane. It is expected that the first stage of these improvements will start early-mid 2015.

Little North Arm Road

This project, located 16 kilometres west of Bellingen involved rebuilding a 300 metre section of road. It is expected this work will start in the next two months.

Newell Falls Rotary Park rest area

Work to repair damage caused by a slip that occurred behind the Rotary Park rest area in 2011 will start next year.

Road resurfacing and heavy patching

Work at five locations between the Pacific Highway and Dorrigo to repair the road has been complete. These areas are due to be resurfaced and new line-marking installed in January 2015, weather permitting.

Drainage on Dorrigo mountain

Upgrading drainage along Waterfall Way is continuing on the Dorrigo Mountain.