



Transport  
Roads & Maritime  
Services

# SEATS REPORT

RMS Southern, NSW  
August 2016



## 1 Summary

Roads and Maritime Services are currently working on 18 projects. There are:

- 13 proposals in development, including two in conjunction with local councils
- 5 projects currently under construction

### 1.1 Proposals in development

- Berry to Bomaderry Upgrade
- Princes Highway Albion Park Rail Bypass
- Princes Highway Nowra Bridge
- Princes Highway Dignams Creek
- M1 Princes Motorway Improvements
- M1 Princes Motorway Interchange at Mount Ousley
- Ellerton Drive Extension, Queanbeyan (in conjunction with Queanbeyan Palerang Regional Council)
- Batemans Bay Link Road, Batemans Bay (in conjunction with Eurobodalla Shire Council)
- Batemans Bay Bridge
- Kings Highway Nelligen Bridge
- Monaro Highway and Kosciuszko Road overtaking lanes and safety improvements
- Charleyong Bridge replacement (in conjunction with Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council)
- Lansdowne Bridge

### 1.2 Projects under construction

- Princes Highway Burrill Lake Bridge
- Bemboka Bridge
- Foxground and Berry Bypass – Toolijooa Road to Schofields Lane
- Princes Highway, Little Forest Road intersection
- Kings Highway Road Safety Works

### 1.3 Recently completed projects

- Hume Highway/Picton Road Traffic Lights Installation
- Princes Highway, Termeil Creek

## 2 Proposals in Development

### 2.1 Berry to Bomaderry Upgrade, Princes Highway

Roads and Maritime Services is currently finalising detailed design for the project. It is expected to be complete mid this year. Roads and Maritime has completed recovery of Aboriginal heritage items and carried out archaeological investigations of non-Aboriginal heritage items within the project area. Property acquisition is currently underway and will continue in 2016. The NSW Government allocated \$18 million in the 2016/17 budget.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/berry-to-bomaderry/index.html>

### 2.2 Princes Highway Albion Park Rail Bypass

In the 2016/17 NSW State Budget, \$15 million has been committed for ongoing planning for the future upgrade of the Princes Highway between Yallah and Oak Flats. Construction is planned to start in early 2019.

An environmental impact statement for the project was released for public comment on 28 October 2015. Submissions on EIS for the project closed on 27 November 2015. RMS is considering comments on the project, refining the concept design and will respond in a Submissions Report and Preferred Infrastructure Report which will be released in February 2017.

Roads and Maritime are targeting planning approval mid-2017.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/illawarra/albion-park-rail-bypass/index.html>

### 2.3 Princes Highway Nowra Bridge

Following public consultation in late 2014, the NSW Minister for Roads and Freight endorsed an option to replace the existing southbound crossing of the Shoalhaven River immediately to the west of the existing concrete bridge. Planning is now underway for a new bridge that will improve conditions on the Princes Highway, including intersection improvements near the bridge.

Prior to the recent Federal election, Ms Ann Sudmalis MP, Member for Gilmore, pledged \$10M to the planning of a new crossing of the Shoalhaven. In the 2015/16 NSW State Budget, \$3M has been committed to the project.

In December 2014 Roads and Maritime completed community consultation requesting feedback to help determine the long term future of the old Nowra Bridge. The Nowra Bridge Project Consultation Summary was published in May 2015 and is available on the project website. Planning is continuing.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/nowra-bridges-shoalhaven-river/index.html>

### 2.4 Princes Highway Dignams Creek

In September 2014 Roads and Maritime awarded the contract for the detailed design of the project to GHD Pty Ltd. Detailed design is complete. Construction tenders are expected to be invited in August 2016. The 2016/17 State Budget allocated \$15 million to the project.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/dignams-creek/index.html>

## 2.5 M1 Princes Motorway Improvements

Roads and Maritime is planning to upgrade the M1 Princes Motorway, by improving the road between Picton Road and Bulli Tops. The proposal will improve safety and provide additional capacity between Picton Road and Bulli Pass.

Roads and Maritime is continuing to refine the concept design for the project. SMEC Australia has been awarded a contract for the preparation of environmental studies. The Australian Government and the NSW Government have confirmed a joint funding arrangement as part of the Infrastructure Investment Program.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/illawarra/mount-ousley-road/slow-vehicle-climbing-lanes/index.html>

## 2.6 M1 Princes Motorway interchange at Mount Ousley

Roads and Maritime has started planning for an interchange on the M1, at the base of Mount Ousley. The project would replace the existing intersection of the M1 and Mount Ousley Road as well as look at opportunities for a third southbound lane. A preferred option has recently been placed on exhibition for public comment. Feedback on the design will be used to refine the project during the environmental assessment. The NSW Government has allocated \$1,000,000 in the 2016/17 budget to begin this planning work.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/illawarra/mount-ousley-road/m1-interchange/index.html>

## 2.7 Ellerton Drive Extension, Queanbeyan

The NSW Government and Australian Government announced joint funding of \$50 million for the planning and construction of the Ellerton Drive Extension in Queanbeyan in 2013. The works are part of Queanbeyan-Palerang Council's program to provide for future traffic in the city and to provide an alternative route around the CBD. The route would provide flood free access in the event of a 1:100 flood. Roads and Maritime will be providing development and governance oversight to the project. Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council recently approved the environmental assessment for the project. Tender document preparation and the finalisation of other environmental approvals are currently underway, with construction due to begin in early 2017.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/ellerton-drive/index.html>

## 2.8 Batemans Bay Link Road, Batemans Bay

The NSW Government has announced \$10 million funding for the Batemans Bay Link Road to relieve congestion in the Batemans Bay CBD, especially during peak holiday periods. Roads and Maritime continues to work with Eurobodalla Council to provide a safe and efficient junction at the Batemans Bay Link Road and the Princes Highway intersection and progress this work.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/batemans-bay-link-road/index.html>

## 2.9 Batemans Bay Bridge

Environmental studies have commenced to identify possible future environmental issues and constraints as part of early scoping process to duplicate Batemans Bay Bridge.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/batemans-bay-link-road/index.html>

## 2.10 Kings Highway, Nelligen Bridge

Roads and Maritime is investigating options for the future of Nelligen Bridge over the Clyde River at Nelligen, following a 2011 review which identified deterioration of the reinforced concrete piles under the bridge during routine inspections. Structural engineers have assessed the strength of the bridge and found it is still able to safely carry normal highway loads. The bridge will require significant future maintenance.

Following an options selection process including consideration of maintenance and replacement options, a preferred location has been selected for a new structure, to the north of the existing bridge. Roads and Maritime have awarded a contract to GHD Pty Ltd to undertake the environmental assessment for the project. Concept design is progressing and it is anticipated that environmental assessment will be available for community comment in 2016.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/kings-highway/nelligen-bridge/index.html>

## 2.11 Monaro Highway and Kosciuszko Road overtaking lanes and safety improvements

Roads and Maritime continue planning for additional overtaking opportunities and safety improvements on the Monaro Highway and Kosciuszko Road. The location and extent of works is currently being investigated. The NSW Government allocated \$1.2 million to these activities in 2016/17.

Work undertaken to date includes survey and strategic designs at selected locations. Concept design for an additional lane west of Barry Way is progressing and geotechnical investigations have been finalised with the overtaking lanes expected to be completed by 2019, weather permitting.

## 2.12 Charleyong Bridge replacement

Roads and Maritime, with the involvement of Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council, continues planning for the installation of a new bridge over the Mongarlowe River, as part of the Timber Truss Bridge replacement program. A review of environmental factors has been completed containing specialist studies and investigations regarding biodiversity, visual impact and both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage items.

Roads and Maritime are now asking for community feedback on the preferred option and the review of environmental factors until Friday 26 August. Feedback will be used to refine the design during the environmental assessment.

## 2.13 Lansdowne Bridge

Roads and Maritime, in consultation with Goulburn-Mulwaree Council, continues planning for the construction of a new bridge over Mulwaree Ponds, as part of the Timber Truss Bridge replacement program. Further assessment of the impacts to the surrounding environment and heritage properties are in progress. Roads and Maritime are working with the Office of Environment and Heritage to address the impacts associated with the preferred bridge replacement option.

The outcome of these investigations is due to be known in late 2016 and the preferred bridge replacement will be displayed shortly after. The existing Lansdowne Bridge was closed to all road users on 22 July 2016.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/lansdowne-bridge/index.html>

## 3 Projects Under Construction

### 3.1 Princes Highway Burrill Lake Bridge

Roads and Maritime has awarded a contract to BGC Contracting Pty Ltd to construct a new 290 metre long bridge across Burrill Lake on a new alignment to the east of the existing crossing. The NSW Government has allocated \$30 million in 2016/17 to fund the continued construction of the bridge. The entire project is expected to cost \$58M and major construction commenced in March 2016 with an opening ceremony attended by the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight Duncan Gay and the Member for South Coast Shelley Hancock on the 5 April 2016. Construction is progressing well, and is currently anticipated to be complete by early 2018.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/burrill-lake-crossing/index.html>

### 3.2 Bemboka Bridge

Roads and Maritime is widening the bridge over the Bemboka River on the Snowy Mountains Highway at Moran's crossing, approximately eight kilometres south-west of Bemboka. The works will enable safe continued use of the bridge by Higher Mass Limit (HML) vehicles and includes work on the approaches. Nelmac Pty Ltd has been contracted to undertake the new bridge construction. The new bridge has been constructed and a traffic switch put in place while works continue to enable the old bridge carry eastbound traffic. Works are anticipated to be complete in 2016.

Funding for this project is part of the NSW Government's Bridges for the Bush program. The initiative is a commitment from NSW Government to improve road freight productivity by replacing or upgrading bridges over the next five years at 17 key locations in rural and regional NSW. The NSW Government has allocated \$63.8 million to the Bridges for the Bush program in the 2016/17 Budget.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/bemboka-bridge-upgrade/index.html>

### 3.3 Foxground & Berry Bypass – Toolijooa Road to Schofields Lane, Princes Highway

The Foxground and Berry bypass is currently under construction. It is the second stage in the Gerringong to Bomaderry Princes Highway upgrade series of projects. The \$580 million project is fully funded by the NSW State Government. The NSW Government allocated \$110 million in the 2016/17 for the continued construction of the project. The project will bypass the Foxground bends and the township of Berry, improving road safety and travel times for motorists and reducing traffic congestion within Berry.

Motorists were recently moved onto 2kms of new highway between Gembrook Lane and Berry for two-lane, two-way traffic as part of the bypass project. Other Bridge and road works continue, with a number of temporary diversions for traffic in place and the completion of realigned side roads at Toolijooa Road and an extension of Hitchcocks Lane.

The project is anticipated to be open to traffic in mid-2018, weather permitting.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/foxground-berry-bypass/index.html>

### 3.4 Princes Highway, Little Forest Road intersection

Roads and Maritime Services began work on site in February 2016 to relocate the intersection of the A1 Princes Highway and Little Forest Road around 400m to the south of the existing location to improve safety. Works are progressing well, with the new alignment of Little Forest Road now finalised, and Highway works are underway. The project is anticipated to be open to traffic in late 2016.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/little-forest-road/index.html>

### 3.5 Kings Highway Road Safety Review

The NSW Centre for Road Safety and Roads and Maritime have undertaken a road safety review of the Kings Highway between the Princes Highway roundabout at Batemans Bay and the easternmost part of the ACT border just south of Bungendore. The review was finalised and released in March 2013. The report can be found via the following link:

[http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/downloads/kings\\_hwy\\_safety\\_review.pdf](http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au/downloads/kings_hwy_safety_review.pdf)

After release of the Kings Highway Safety Review report, it was announced that the NSW Government would allocate funds for important upgrades aimed at lowering crash and casualty rates on the Kings Highway. A program of works worth approximately \$30 million commenced in July 2013, with completion planned for December 2017. 17.

Roads and Maritime has been working closely with Palerang Council and Eurobodalla Shire Council to develop and deliver the identified upgrades to this road. A range of road safety treatments have been delivered including clear zone hazard reductions, curve and line marking improvements, shoulder widening, extension of an overtaking lane and construction of vehicle inspection and police enforcement sites. Works to widen shoulders and realign the road were completed in March 2016 on the 500m length of the Highway at Misty Mountain.

Construction is also well underway on a major road realignment, shoulder widening and a westbound overtaking lane between River Forest Road and Mongarlowe River, along with a major curve realignment and enforcement bay, one kilometre east of Nelligen. The NSW Government allocated \$5.97 million to this project in the 2016/17 budget.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/kings-highway/index.html>

## 4 Recently completed projects

### 4.1 Princes Highway, Termeil Creek

The Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight Duncan Gay and Member for South Coast Shelley Hancock officially opened the \$21 million upgrade of the Princes Highway at Termeil Creek. The official opening was also attended by Roads and Maritime project staff and senior staff from contractors CMC. The newly opened 1.6km road corridor will enable a safer and efficient journey by improving road alignment.

Other benefits include safer access to residents, the relocation of the entrance to Meroo National Park at Blackbutt Road and a new wider bridge over Termeil Creek.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/termeil-creek/index.html>

## 5 Corridor Strategy Development

Transport for NSW and the Roads and Maritime Services are progressively preparing corridor strategies for every State road in NSW to create consistency in how the State Road network is managed and planned. Corridor Strategies include priorities for future road maintenance, operation, safety and traffic and are developed to align with the new approach to integrated transport planning.

Corridor Strategies set a 20 year vision for the road corridor and will be reviewed every five years or as required. RMS Southern Region is planning to complete 3 corridor strategies in the 2015-16 financial year.

Corridor strategies will be delivered by a multi-disciplinary team comprised of members from TfNSW and RMS and will include input and feedback from our customers, the community and external stakeholders.

The consultation period for the Princes Highway Draft Corridor Strategy closed on 27 May 2016.

A Consultation Report was prepared and the documents are in the process of being approved by Government.

The Picton and Appin Roads, Illawarra Highway, and Bulli Pass strategies currently being finalised for public comment in late 2016

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/corridor-strategies/index.html>

RMS priorities for the next four years are:

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|---------|--|
| 2015/16 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Princes Highway</li><li>• Picton and Appin Roads</li><li>• Bulli Pass</li><li>• Illawarra Highway</li></ul>  |
| 2016/17 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Waterfall to Unanderra<br/>(renamed and scope changed to Thirroul to Unanderra)</li><li>• Hume Highway (post duplication)</li><li>• Port Kembla Access Strategy</li></ul>  |
| 2017/18 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lawrence Hargrave Drive</li><li>• Snowy Mountains Highway</li><li>• Kings Highway</li><li>• Federal Highway and Sutton Road</li><li>• Bowral to Bomaderry</li><li>• Moss Vale to Mittagong</li><li>• Kosciusko Road</li><li>• Monaro Highway</li></ul> |
| 2018/19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Goulburn to Ilford Road</li><li>• Braidwood Road</li><li>• Alpine Way</li><li>• Shellharbour Road</li><li>• Lakes Entrance Road</li><li>• Old Hume Highway</li></ul>   |

## 6 Miscellaneous Actions

### 6.1 Mt Ousley maintenance process

Roads and Maritime has initiated a coordinated maintenance program for works on the M1/Mount Ousley/Picton Road portion of the network. The program provides for full night-time closures of parts of the network to allow for a range of coordinated maintenance activities to be undertaken in a safe and efficient manner. Closures are advertised widely to all road users including freight stakeholders, and have proven successful to date.

<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/illawarra/mount-ousley-road/index.html>