



Transport  
Roads & Maritime  
Services

# SEATS REPORT

## RMS Southern, NSW

February 2017



## 1 Summary

Roads and Maritime Services are currently working on 17 projects. There are:

- 13 proposals in development, including two in conjunction with local councils
- 4 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
- 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

- Bemboka Bridge
- 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 shortly. Property acquisition is nearing completion. 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 June 2017. Roads and Maritime are targeting planning approval in mid to late 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 2016/17 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

Following a tender assessment period, Roads and Maritime have awarded the contract to build the Dignams Creek Upgrade to York Civil Pty Ltd. Roads and Maritime are undertaking pre-construction arrangements with York Civil, with major construction planned to begin in early 2017. 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 have exhibited a review of environmental factors, and will be responding to issues raised by the public and Agencies in a Submissions Report, to be published in mid-2017. 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. A preferred option has been selected, which is compatible with the installation of a future third southbound lane. Feedback on the design will be used to refine the project during the environmental assessment. A contract for concept design and environmental assessment has been awarded to Jacobs Group. 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 pre-construction environmental clearing complete, and with major construction due to begin in 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

RMS is investigating options for the replacement of Batemans Bay Bridge. Preliminary investigations that have been carried out include the identification of environmental constraints, survey work, traffic modelling and inspections of the existing bridge. The project team is working towards the completion of a report which recommends a preferred option, to be released in late 2017.



<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/batemans-bay-bridge/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 the environmental assessment has been displayed an a submissions report is being prepared, with an expected publication in mid 2017

<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, with an update on potential locations expected in early 2017. Concept design for an additional lane west of Barry Way is progressing and geotechnical investigations and other preliminary work is are underway 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 Bridges for the Bush program. A review of environmental factors was placed on display for public comment over August 2016. Roads and Maritime have reviewed the issues raised, and published a Submissions Report. Some minor design amendments are being investigated following public submissions.



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

## 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 were open to public comment until late December 2017. Roads and Maritime are working with the Office of Environment and Heritage to address the impacts associated with the preferred bridge replacement option. Additional geotechnical and utility investigations are planned for early 2017.

The outcome of heritage investigations is due to be made available in early 2017 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>



Looking south, the first pylons for the temporary bridge constructed in the channel.

#### 3.2 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.

The Foxground bypass section of the project is anticipated to open to highway traffic before Easter 2017. The Berry bypass component is anticipated to be finalised ahead of schedule, before Christmas 2017. A range of ongoing traffic changes have occurred, with details provided on the project website.

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>





Aerial view of the works on the Foxground and Berry bypass.

### 3.3 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>

### 3.4 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.

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 for major road realignment works, 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 work is progressing and is expected to be complete by late 2017. 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 Bemboka Bridge

A new bridge and the upgraded existing bridge were officially opened by the Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight Duncan Gay, and the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure Andrew Constance on 31 October 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>

### 4.2 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 has published one strategy and prepared three draft 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 Princes Highway Corridor Strategy was released in September 2016. The Picton and Appin Roads, Illawarra Highway, and Bulli Pass strategies are currently in the approval process.

Initial data collection and analysis has commenced on the Thirroul to Unanderra Corridor Strategy and Hume Highway (post duplication) Corridor Strategy. The Port Kembla Access Strategy will commence in late 2017.

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

RMS priorities for the next three years are:

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 2016/17 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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>• Kosciuszko 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 Heavy Vehicle Rest Areas

The NSW and Australian governments joint funded \$8.7 million to construct five new heavy vehicle rest areas on the Princes Highway between Sussex Inlet and the Victorian border. This will ensure compliance with the National Transport Commission (NTC) fatigue management guidelines and improve stopping opportunities for the heavy vehicle operators.

Southbound rest areas

- Jerrawangala, 2 kilometres south of Sussex Inlet Road – completed.
- Waldrons Swamp, 7 kilometres north of Moruya – completed
- Near Christopher's Road, 32 kilometres north of Bega – 12-month moratorium in place

Northbound rest areas:

- Near Dummetts Lane, 28 kilometres north of Bega – completed
- Near Broulee Road, 7 kilometres south of Mogo – completed

Monitoring of HV usage has been conducted at the three opened HVRA sites. The monitoring included placement of traffic counters, noise monitors and a CCTV camera to assess what noise, traffic and user behaviour impacts are occurring in the heavy vehicle rest areas and their surrounds. Roads and Maritime will continue to monitor HV needs into the future in partnership with Transport for NSW and the framework of the Princes Highway Corridor Strategy.

Major Heavy Vehicle Rest Area in the Shoalhaven region:

- A Value Management Workshop report is currently being approved for distribution release to attendees of the workshop. The report outlines the preferred option(s) for future consideration of potential investment sites south of Nowra.
- Key stakeholders will be individually briefed after they have received a copy of the workshop report.
- RMS will continue to monitor the performance of the Princes Highway Corridor and the needs of the broader Heavy Vehicle industry users of the network.

## 7 Miscellaneous Actions

### 7.1 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>