



Looking south-west towards Englands Road

Coffs Harbour bypass – Planning

Project update – August 2016

The NSW Government is funding the planning of the Coffs Harbour bypass. The project includes about a 14 kilometre motorway standard upgrade of the Pacific Highway from Englands Road in the south and connects with the recently upgraded Sapphire to Woolgoolga section in the north.

This update provides information on the preliminary concept design for the future upgrade of the Pacific Highway in the Coffs Harbour area.

Background

The Australian and NSW governments have been jointly upgrading the Pacific Highway to provide a four lane divided road from Hexham to Queensland.

Roads and Maritime Services has been investigating a Coffs Harbour bypass since 2001 as part of the Coffs Harbour Highway Planning Strategy.

The preferred route for the strategy was announced in 2004 and included the Coffs Harbour bypass in the south, and the Sapphire to Woolgoolga upgrade in the north. A concept design for the Coffs Harbour bypass was on display to the community in 2008 and the new road corridor was preserved in council's Local Environment Plan in 2009. The Sapphire to Woolgoolga upgrade opened to traffic in 2014.

Roads and Maritime is now progressing towards planning approval and is finalising the concept design and carrying out an environmental assessment.

In March 2015 the NSW Government pledged \$200 million for construction of the project, subject to a business case.

The preferred route

The preferred route for the Coffs Harbour bypass was confirmed in 2004 and provides a four lane motorway style upgrade from Englands Road in the south and connects with the new four lane divided highway at Sapphire in the north.

The route passes through North Boambee Valley, the Roberts Hill ridgeline and then traverses the foothills of the Coffs Harbour basin west and north to Korora Hill.

Preliminary concept design

In 2008 the concept design was displayed for community feedback, prior to the new road corridor being preserved in council's Local Environment Plan in 2009.

This update outlines the refinements made to the 2008 concept design following community feedback at that time. It also provides advice on the current status of the project and the next steps.

Refinements – preliminary concept design

Refinements incorporated into the preliminary concept design include:

- Refinements to the proposed road boundary and embankment design at the Coramba Road interchange
- Refinements to the new highway alignment, intersection design and road boundary at the Korora Hill interchange
- To property access arrangements
- Pedestrian access across the new highway and service road near the Korora Public School would be retained. This means that either the existing Luke Bowen footbridge would be upgraded to suit the new highway, or a new bridge would be built. Pedestrian access will be developed further as part of the environmental impact statement and refined concept design
- Access to Korora Public School to be retained via Korora School Road and include a bus interchange facility, a drop off/pick up zone and car parking close to the school
- Improvements to the local road network around the new highway.

Highway access arrangements

The preliminary concept design provides for grade-separated interchanges at the following locations as shown on the map:

- Englands Road
- Coramba Road
- Korora Hill.

The existing Pacific Highway would link the Coffs Harbour central business district to the interchanges at Englands Road and Korora Hill.

A local access road between the southern end of the Sapphire to Woolgoolga upgrade and the Korora Hill interchange would link Sapphire and Korora to the interchange and to the existing highway into Coffs Harbour. The Coramba Road interchange would maintain access to west Coffs Harbour and the Orara Valley.

Possible tunnels

The preferred route for the Coffs Harbour bypass would pass through the major ridges near the western end of Mackays Road, Gatelys Road and Roberts Hill Ridge in either cuttings or tunnels. The road corridor at these locations accommodates both alternatives.

Field investigations

Investigations and studies will take place throughout 2016 and early 2017 and will include:

- Wildlife and vegetation surveys
- Traffic studies
- Geotechnical investigations
- Utility and engineering surveys
- Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage surveys
- Urban design assessments
- Hydrology and groundwater assessments
- Noise monitoring.

These investigations will help Roads and Maritime to prepare the environmental impact statement and further refine the preliminary concept design. We appreciate the co-operation of property owners during these investigations.

Developing the refined concept design

The preliminary concept design may be further refined during the development of the environmental impact statement to avoid or reduce impacts, improve value for money and in response to community comments.

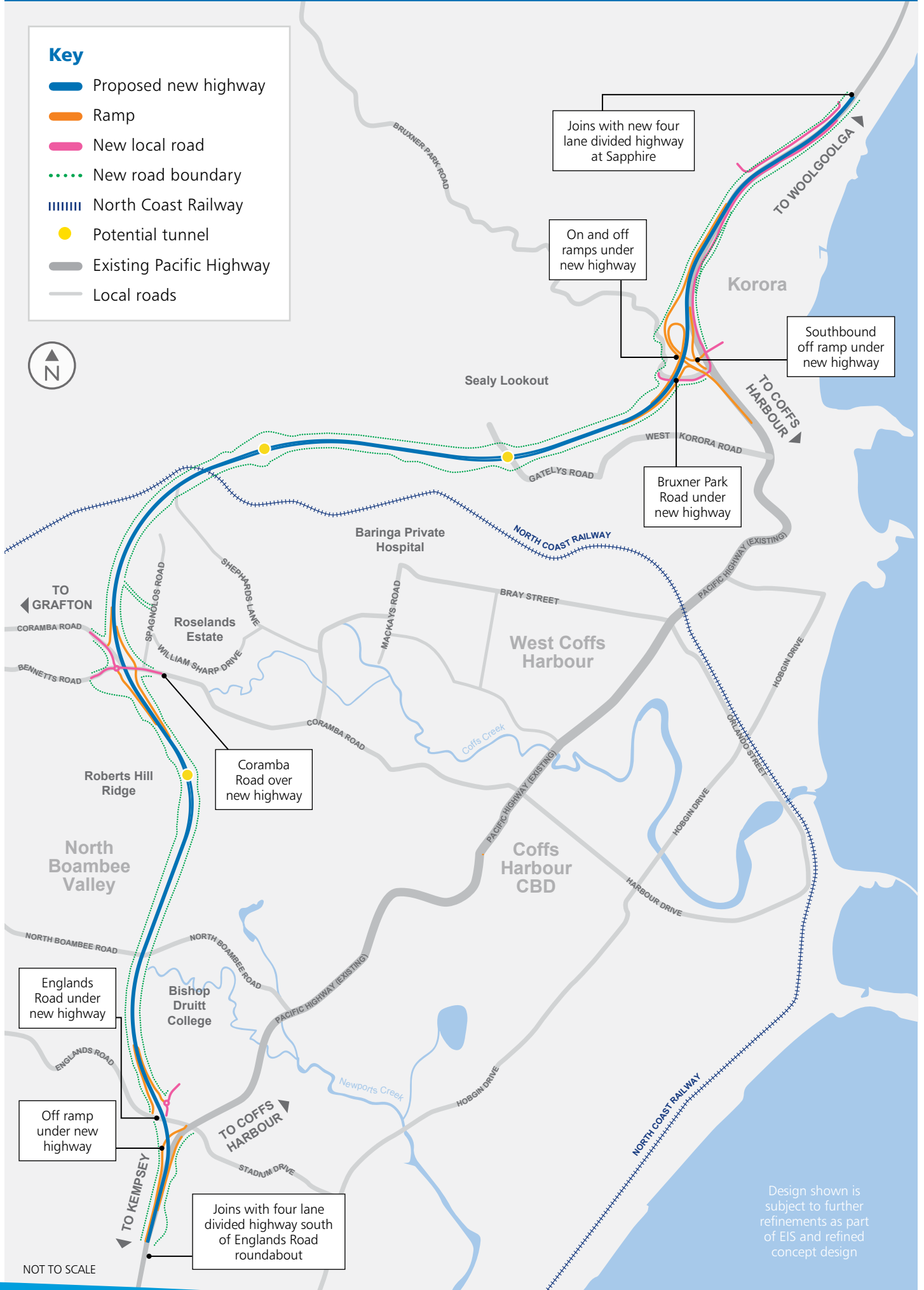
Further possible refinements may include:

- Measures to further reduce potential noise impacts, such as barrier or mounds
- Adjustments to the roadside cut and fill batters
- Refinements to interchanges at Englands Road, Coramba Road and Korora Hill
- Refinements to property access arrangements.

Coffs Harbour bypass – preliminary concept design

Key

- Proposed new highway
- Ramp
- New local road
- ⋯ New road boundary
- ||||| North Coast Railway
- Potential tunnel
- Existing Pacific Highway
- Local roads



Design shown is subject to further refinements as part of EIS and refined concept design

Drop-in sessions

We invite you to discuss and provide your comments on the preliminary concept design. Project staff will be available to discuss the design in more detail at drop in displays:

Wednesday 31 August 2016, 5pm – 8pm

Cavanbah Centre
191 Harbour Drive, Coffs Harbour

Saturday 3 September 2016, 9am – 12pm

Cavanbah Centre
191 Harbour Drive, Coffs Harbour

Display locations

The preliminary concept design for the Coffs Harbour bypass is also on display until **Monday 19 September 2016** at the locations shown below:

Coffs Harbour City Council

Corner Coff and Castle Streets, Coffs Harbour

Coffs Harbour City Library & Information Service

Corner Coff and Duke Streets, Coffs Harbour

Service NSW, Coffs Harbour Service Centre

32-34 Gordon Street, Coffs Harbour

Roads and Maritime Pacific Highway Office

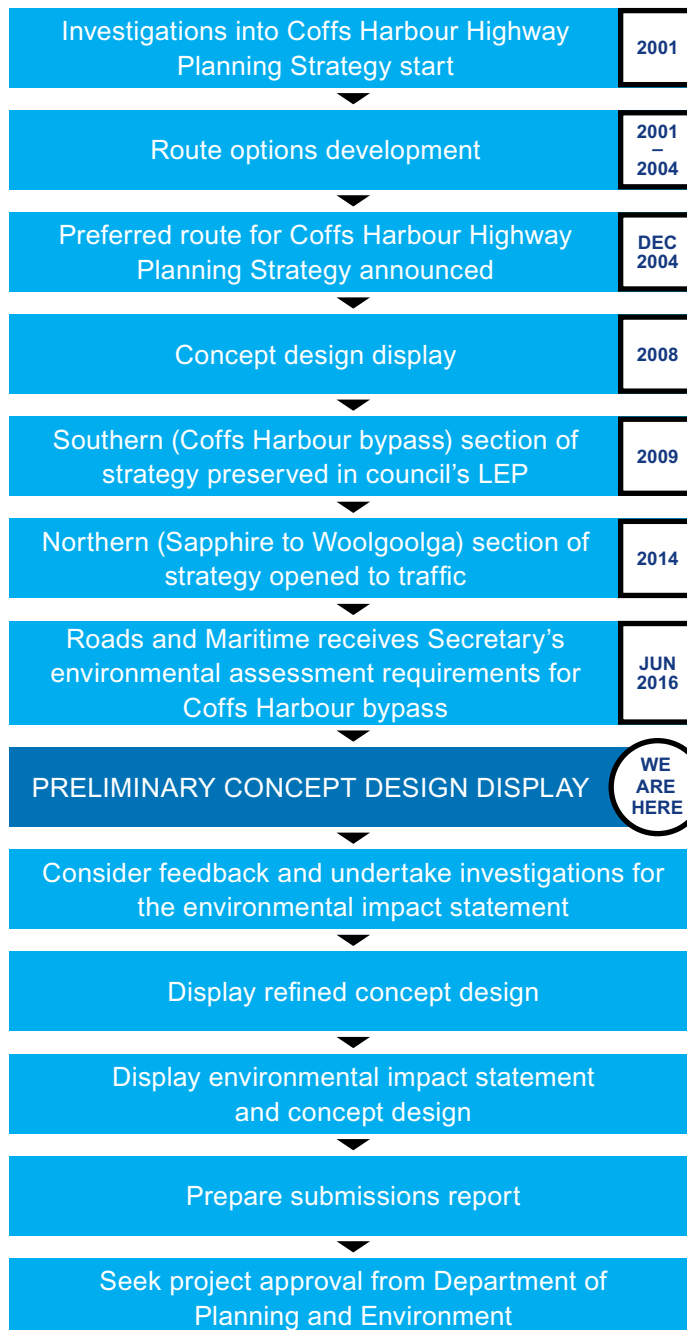
21 Prince Street, Grafton

Next steps

Roads and Maritime will consider any comments on the preliminary concept design as part of the development of the environmental impact statement. We will continue to seek your feedback throughout this process.

Timing of building will depend on funding availability.

What happens next?



Contact us

For more information on the Coffs Harbour bypass project or to provide feedback, please contact the project team:

1800 550 621

coffsharbourbypass@rms.nsw.gov.au



Coffs Harbour bypass project,
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www.rms.nsw.gov.au/coffsharbourbypass

To register yourself on the project mailing list please visit: www.surveymonkey.com/r/coffsharbourbypass

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