Pavement grinding trial and road noise survey

Roads and Maritime Services has completed pavement grinding on two separate sections of the Pacific Highway near Valla, about six kilometres in total. The work is being evaluated as part of a trial to determine if pavement grinding reduces road surface noise.

As part of this trial we are carrying out a noise perception survey to better understand the community’s perceptions of tyre noise as a result of the pavement grinding.

What’s happened?

In June 2018, we surveyed the community to produce a baseline noise perception survey, along with roadside noise measurements taken by an independent noise specialist. Shortly after, pavement grinding work on the Pacific Highway began. Diamond blades were used to cut grooves into the concrete surface at intervals. This work was completed in October last year.

What’s happening next?

There are ongoing tests to be carried out as part of the trial, specifically in relation to texture of the finished surface. Roads and Maritime will continue to monitor the performance of the grooved section of the Pacific Highway at Valla.

A second set of roadside noise measurements have been taken and a report on the results is being prepared for public release.

Survey – part two

We are now carrying out part two of the road noise perception survey open to residents near the trial area. The survey provides an opportunity to record current perceptions of tyre noise as a result of the pavement trial.

There are two ways you can participate in the survey:

- complete the attached survey and return it to Roads and Maritime using the reply paid envelope
- complete the survey online by visiting rms.nsw.gov.au/pacific (Nambucca Heads to Urunga)

It is important for residents who completed the first (baseline) survey, to participate in this survey, which will help us to determine whether pavement grinding works in reducing road traffic noise.

You can contact the project team on pacific.highway@rms.nsw.gov.au or by phoning 1800 653 092.