New England Highway upgrade between Belford and the Golden Highway

Project update – design improvements

Roads and Maritime Services | April 2018

We are planning to upgrade the New England Highway between Belford and the Golden Highway to improve traffic flow, travel times and safety for motorists.

The upgrade would provide two lanes in each direction and a flyover for vehicles turning right from the Golden Highway towards Maitland and Newcastle.

As part of the planning process, we are now making some design improvements to address community feedback.

Background

The NSW Government announced $85 million under the Rebuilding NSW Plan for the upgrade, with $5 million committed in 2017-18 to continue planning.

The preferred option for the upgrade was displayed for community comment in May 2015.

An environmental assessment and concept design were displayed in July 2017. Of the 32 submissions received, the main concerns related to safety, travel times and connectivity for nearby properties.

The existing right turn movement from the Golden Highway to the New England Highway would be replaced with a grade separated flyover.
What happens next?

The concept design is currently being refined and improved in response to community feedback.

A submissions report summarising all comments made on the environmental assessment, as well as our response, will be published in late 2018.

Work on a detailed design is expected to start before the end of 2018.

Timing for construction is not yet confirmed.

We will continue to keep stakeholders and the community informed as the project progresses.