Mitchell Highway (Cobra Street) and Fitzroy Street intersection upgrade

Frequently asked questions – May 2019

About the project

What is happening?
The NSW Government is investing $14 million to upgrade the Mitchell Highway (Cobra Street) and Fitzroy Street intersection to improve safety and efficiency. This work is being undertaken as part of the $195 million investment to build a better Dubbo.
The roundabout at the intersection will be replaced with traffic lights. The upgrade will reduce congestion for highway and local traffic, particularly during peak hours.

Where are we now?
Roads and Maritime is currently planning and developing the Mitchell Highway (Cobra Street) and Fitzroy Street intersection upgrade.
The proposed design of the upgrade is now complete and will be on public display from Monday 27 May to Friday 28 June.
It is expected that early works will start later in 2019 and construction will be completed in December 2020.

What are the key features of the project?
The Mitchell Highway (Cobra Street) and Fitzroy Street intersection upgrade includes the following features:
- Traffic lights will replace the existing roundabout
- New pedestrian crossings on all four sides of the intersection, with foot ramps to improve wheelchair and pram access
- Widened intersection to improve traffic flow
- Relocating some underground service utilities and overhead power
- Improvements to street lighting
- Improvements to road quality and the reduction of hazards.
What are the project benefits?
The aim of the intersection upgrade is to improve safety and traffic efficiency. This includes:
• Improve motorist, pedestrian and cyclist safety at the intersection
• Improve traffic efficiency by better regulating traffic flow to accommodate increasing traffic volumes
• Reduce congestion for highway and local traffic - particularly during peak hours.
• Improvements to intersection street lighting

Why do the Jacaranda trees need to be removed?
The proposed design requires the removal of Jacaranda trees on Fitzroy Street. This is to improve sight distances for motorists, facilitate kerbside parking, and remove hazards away from travel lanes.

Are the trees being replaced?
The community significance of these trees is recognised. In 2016, mature replacement trees were planted along the eastern and southern boundary of Elston Park (near Cobra Street and Fitzroy Street) to offset this loss.

Will Elston Park be accessible during the works?
Yes, important community spaces at Elston Park such as the water park, playground areas, and tennis courts will be accessible during the planned works. Park users will be advised well in advance of any potential disturbance.

Will service stations remain operational?
Yes, service stations will remain operational during the upgrade works. There may be some changes to accesses during some stages. We will consult with businesses ahead of time and impacts will be publicly advertised.

Will the current median lane on Cobra Street stay?
No, the existing median island along Cobra Street will be removed.
A new central concrete median island will be installed along Cobra Street and Fitzroy Street to prevent unsafe vehicle movements.

Are there changes to kerbside parking?
Yes, there are some changes to parking, which is shown in the aerial layout. Some parking along Fitzroy Street and Cobra Street within the project will change to parallel parking. Within the entire project length there will be a reduction of 43 parking spaces. Currently there are approximately 153 car parking spaces within the project length and the proposed design retains 90 of these.
Isolated areas of kerb and guttering will require widening to accommodate retained parking, and immediate business and residences will be consulted throughout various stages of these adjustments.

How will the community be informed about the development of the project?
Roads and Maritime will continue to engage with the community as the project develops.
All community and stakeholder feedback on the project is welcome.
A fly-through, animation video showing the upgrade proposal will be able for viewing at the drop in sessions and online at rms.work/dubbo

Drop in sessions
We are holding a number of drop in sessions during the display period where teams from each project will be available to meet with the community, answer questions and provide more information.
For further information about our display sessions and where you’ll find us, visit rms.work/dubbo
All proposed designs and how you can give your feedback can also be found on the website.