

27 July 2007

KEMPSEY TO EUNGAI UPGRADE DISPLAY

The upgrade of the Pacific Highway from Kempsey to Eungai has moved a step closer, with the environmental assessment and a refined design to go on display.

An RTA spokesperson said the display would run from Monday (30 July).

“This is an important step in the upgrade process and the community will be pleased to see the project moving forward,” the spokesperson said.

“The upgrade will involve construction of approximately 40 kilometres of dual carriage highway from south of Kempsey to the existing dual carriageway north of Eungai Rail.

“The environmental assessment focuses on the key issues identified during the project application phase in late 2006.

“It describes the proposed upgrade, the changes likely to result during construction and after completion of the upgrade and how the RTA proposes to manage and mitigate any impacts.”

The upgrade will bypass the townships of Kempsey and Frederickton, removing through traffic, improving road safety and travel efficiency.

Key features of the displayed proposal include:

- Interchanges at South Kempsey, Frederickton and Stuarts Point Road south of Eungai Rail.
- Construction of a 1:100 year flood levee at Frederickton as a flood mitigation measure.
- Reduced environmental impacts relative to the existing highway, including noise and improved air quality.
- Construction of 2.15 kilometres of bridging over the Macleay River and floodplain.

“To ensure the best possible outcome for the whole community is achieved, I am urging members of the public to visit the display locations and give the RTA their feedback on the environmental assessment,” said the spokesperson said.

“An animated fly-through and drive-through which will show the community what the proposed upgrade will look like will be available at the staffed displays.”

Following the display of the environmental assessment and refined design the proposal will be assessed by the NSW Department of Planning and considered for approval by the NSW Minister for Planning.

Information on the environmental assessment for the Kempsey to Eungai project will be available at the following locations:

- Kempsey Shire Council, 22 Tozer Street, West Kempsey (Mon-Fri, 8.30am-4.30pm).
- Kempsey RTA Motor Registry, 55 Elbow Street, West Kempsey (Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm).
- Kempsey Visitor Information Centre, Lachlan Street (Pacific Highway) (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm and Sat, 10am-4pm).
- Frederickton Newsagent, 7 Macleay Street, Frederickton (Mon-Fri, 6am-7pm and Sat-Sun, 7am-6pm).
- Eungai Rail Post Office and General Store, 8 Station Street, Eungai Rail (Mon-Fri, 7am-6pm. Sat, 8am-6pm. Sun, 8am-3pm).
- RTA Pacific Highway Office, 21 Prince Street, Grafton (Mon-Fri, 8.30am-4.30pm).
- Nambucca Shire Council, 44 Princess Street, Macksville (Mon-Fri, 8.30am-4.30pm).
- Nambucca RTA Motor Registry, shops 11-13, Seascape Shopping Centre, Ridge Street, Nambucca Heads (Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm).
- Port Macquarie RTA Motor Registry, cnr Central and Bar ton Crescent, Port Macquarie (Mon-Fri, 8.30am-5pm and Sat, 8.30am-12 noon).
- RTA Head Office, ground floor Centennial Plaza, 260 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills (Mon-Fri, 8.30am-5pm).
- Stuarts Point Newsagency, 2/16 Marine Parade, Stuarts Point (Mon-Fri, 7.30am-5.30pm. Sat, 7.30am-12 noon. Sun, 7.30am-11pm).
- NSW Department of Planning Information Centre, 23-33 Bridge Street Sydney (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm).
- BP Petrol Station Clybucca, Pacific Highway, Clybucca (24 hours).
- Gladstone Post Office, 54 Barnard Street, Gladstone (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm. Closed daily 12 noon-1pm).
- Dunghutti Elders Council, shops 5 and 6, 11 John Street, Kempsey.
- Booroongen Djugun Aboriginal Corporation (nursing home), 337-351 River view Street, Greenhill (Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm).
- South West Rocks Country Club, 2 Sportmans Way, South West Rocks (Mon-Sun, 10am-10pm).
- Crescent Head Newsagency, 10 Main Street, Crescent Head (Mon-Sat, 7.30am-6pm and Sun, 7.30am-3.30pm).

Staffed displays

Project staff will be available to discuss the environmental assessment and refined design in more detail at the following location:

- Shop 1, 37 Forth Street Kempsey
Wednesday 1 August 2007, 8.30am-4.30pm.
Thursday 2 August 2007, 8.30am-4.30pm.
Friday 3 August 2007, 8.30am-3pm.
Monday 13 August 2007, 8.30am-4.30pm.
Tuesday 14 August 2007, 8.30am-4.30pm.

The refined design and environmental assessment will be on display for comment until **Friday 31 August 2007**.

For more information, visit the RTA's website at www.rta.nsw.gov.au/pacific (click on Kempsey to Eungai) or phone the project information line on 1800 306 004 (toll free).

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