DECEMBER 2010

PROGRESS UPDATE

F3 Freeway to Raymond Terrace

The F3 Freeway to Raymond Terrace concept design was on display for community comment until Friday 15 August 2008.

Following the display, about 150 submissions were received. The issues raised included access and interchange arrangements, flooding, water quality, noise, signage and impacts on plants and animals.

The following changes to the concept design have been made in response to the submissions received:

- Alignment at Hunter Region Botanic Gardens has been amended to reduce impacts.
- The location of the northbound exit ramp to Tomago Road has been relocated to avoid a proposed power station.
- The northbound exit ramp to Heatherbrae has been moved closer to Heatherbrae.

Maps of the revised concept design can be found in the F3 Freeway to Raymond Terrace Concept Design Submissions Report (see "Report available").

The RTA will continue to consider all issues raised during the preparation of the environmental assessment and the final design.

Access to Hunter Region Botanic Gardens

Most of the submissions received raised concerns about the visual and physical impacts to the Botanic Gardens due to the location of the southbound exit ramp.

In response, the RTA has undertaken extensive community consultation and reviewed the proposed interchange.

Two alternative options have now been developed to minimise impacts. These two options are shown overleaf.

A decision on the final access arrangement will be made during the detailed design phase (see "What happens next?").
Report available

The F3 Freeway to Raymond Terrace Concept Design Submissions Report outlines the submissions received and the RTA’s response to issues raised during the display of the concept design.

The report is available on the project website or a copy can be obtained by contacting the project information line (see below).

What happens next?

The RTA will approach Port Stephens and Newcastle councils to formally reserve the corridor in their local environmental plan. The boundaries of the corridor would be based on the final concept design.

Timing of final project approval and construction will depend on funding availability. Once this is determined, an environmental assessment will commence and planning approval sought.

For further information:

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