The NSW Government is proposing to upgrade sections of Chifley Road between Bell and Lithgow as part of the Bells Line of Road Corridor. The upgrade is being planned to provide long-term road safety benefits, more reliable travel times and improve regional access and efficiency.

The Bells Line of Road and its westerly extension, Chifley Road, form one of two major routes which link the Sydney urban area with Lithgow and the NSW Central Western region, through the Blue Mountains.

The combination of narrow lanes and shoulders and poor vertical and horizontal road alignment has led to a high crash rate along Chifley Road.

Roads and Maritime Services has prepared a concept design and Review of Environmental Factors for the proposed upgrade of Bells Line of Road/Chifley road. We are seeking community and stakeholder feedback on the proposal by Wednesday 26 October.

Key features and benefits

The proposal would upgrade Scenic Hill, located about three kilometres east of Lithgow, and Clarence road over rail bridge located about five kilometres west of Bell.

The proposal includes providing a descending lane and improvements to the grade and curves at Scenic Hill, and the replacement of the existing Clarence Road over rail bridge.

The upgrade would:

• Improve travel conditions
• Improve regional access and efficiency
• Improve safety for all road users.

Review of Environmental Factors

Roads and Maritime has prepared a Review of Environmental Factors to examine the potential impacts of the proposed upgrade to Chifley Road and outline measures to reduce and manage the impacts.

This Review of Environmental Factors follows the display of a preliminary concept design, earlier this year, which encouraged community and stakeholder feedback to help guide our decision making and design. A community consultation report outlining and responding to issues raised is available on the Roads and Maritime website.

Display of Review of Environmental Factors

The Review of Environmental Factors is on display for community and stakeholder feedback until Wednesday 26 October 2016.

The Review of Environmental Factors is available to view or download from the Roads and Maritime website at rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/sydney-west/bells-line-of-road/chifley-road-upgrade

Alternatively you can visit the following display locations:

Lithgow City Council,
180 Mort Street, Lithgow NSW 2790
Open weekdays 8.15am to 4pm

Lithgow Library,
157 Main Street, Lithgow NSW 2790
Open weekdays 9am to 6pm, and Saturday 9am to 12pm

Roads and Maritime Services District Office,
15–33 Cooerwull Road
Bowenfels NSW 2790
Open weekdays 9am to 4pm
Key features of the Scenic Hill proposal include:

- Widening and improving the alignment of Chifley Road, including the provision of an additional descending lane and median barrier
- Improving access to the Ex-Prisoner of War Memorial
- Improving drainage along road cuttings.
Key features of Clarence road over rail bridge proposal include:

- Replacing and removing the existing road bridge over the Main Western railway line on Chifley Road
- Widening and realigning the approaches to the new bridge over the railway line
- Improving the Clarence Colliery Road intersection with Chifley Road.
Community information drop in sessions

Roads and Maritime recognises the importance of involving the community in the development of the upgrade for Bells Line of Road/Chifley Road. We will host two community information drop in sessions for the community to speak face-to-face with members of the project team and ask questions. A formal presentation will not be given, so please feel free to drop in at any time.

Our project team will be available at:

The Union Theatre, Bridge Street, Lithgow
Thursday 13 October 2016 from 5pm to 8pm
Saturday 15 October 2016 from 12pm to 3pm.

What happens next?

We will consider all comments in finalising the proposal and design and will continue to engage with the community throughout the project. Following the display of the Review of Environmental Factors, Roads and Maritime will prepare a community consultation report to respond to matters the community and stakeholders raise during the display.

We will continue to keep the community updated as the proposal progresses.

For more information

We welcome your feedback on the proposed design and Review of Environmental Factors by Wednesday 26 October. Written comments should be sent to:

ChifleyRoadUpgrade@rms.nsw.gov.au
Bells Line of Road/Chifley Road Upgrade project team
Roads and Maritime Services
PO Box 973
Parramatta NSW 2124

For more information about the proposal, please contact the Roads and Maritime project team:

1800 874 897
ChifleyRoadUpgrade@rms.nsw.gov.au
rms.nsw.gov.au

Privacy

Privacy Roads and Maritime Services (“RMS”) is subject to the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (“PPIP Act”) which requires that we comply with the Information Privacy Principles set out in the PPIP Act. All information in correspondence is collected for the sole purpose of assisting in the assessment of this proposal. The information received, including names and addresses of respondents, may be published in subsequent documents unless a clear indication is given in the correspondence that all or part of that information is not to be published. Otherwise RMS will only disclose your personal information, without your consent, if authorised by the law. Your personal information will be held by RMS at 27–31 Argyle Street, Parramatta NSW 2150. You have the right to access and correct the information if you believe that it is incorrect.