

Report of Infrastructure to the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Monday 21 November 2016

**IN3 – Remediation Works for Blaxland Crossing Bridge – Project Update**

IN3

**Remediation Works for Blaxland Crossing Bridge – Project Update**

1009

TRIM 6607

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report serves to update progress on the remediation works to the Blaxland Crossing Bridge and provide an outline on the procurement process for delivering the remediation works.

It is recommended:

- That Council note the progress of the project to date and that in order to manage the time impacts on the community, that the tender for the rehabilitation works will be accepted under delegated authority by the General Manager.

**REPORT**

Maintenance of Blaxland Bridge on Silverdale Road is the responsibility of both Penrith City Council and Wollondilly Shire Council on a 50/50 cost sharing basis. The bridge was constructed by Wollondilly Council in 1966 and is now 50 years old.

As part of the asset management process, it had been identified that the bridge bearings were approaching the end of their nominal life span and a project was ignited for their replacement.

As part of preparing for the project it was noted that Silverdale Road was gazetted (by Roads & Maritime Services) as a 19m B-Double route for vehicles of over 50 tonnes load.

Although the bridge is on an approved B-Double route, Council's bridge plans show that this bridge was designed for a H20-S16-44 traffic loading which is approximately equivalent to a 33 tonne semi-trailer and was unable to locate any specific design review or test report confirming the capacity of the bridge.

Due to the need to replace the bearings and the increasing number of B-Double and Higher Mass Limit (HML) permit applications to both Penrith and Wollondilly Councils, a consultant was engaged to test the bridge. The testing was to confirm the bridge's capacity to handle the higher loads and determine any other issues that needed to be taken into consideration for the replacement of the bearings.

**IN3 – Remediation Works for Blaxland Crossing Bridge – Project Update**

The consultant concluded that the bridge was not suitable for either HML or B-Double loading in its current condition (though not at risk of catastrophic failure); the existing bearings were not functioning correctly and did require replacement and some additional repairs or upgrades of the bridge are required for it to be used for loadings above the original design load. The final capacity if the bridge will be assessed based in the rehabilitation design and post works testing.

Budget estimates have been obtained for this rehabilitation with the approximate total project cost at \$600,000 (i.e. \$300,000 for each Council).

Wollondilly Shire Council, with the agreement with Penrith City Council, has taken the lead role in pursuing the remediation works and engaged design consultants to specify the works.

This process was delayed somewhat during the June 2016 floods which inundated the bridge structure requiring some further investigations and delayed the implementation of the traffic management plan.

The project is progressing in stages as follows:

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| June 2016                   | Implementation of the traffic management plan including the general load restriction of 38 tonne and a reduction to a 40 kph speed limit across the bridge to reduce impact loads on the bearings |
| June 2016 to date           | Processing of load restriction permits for vehicles between 38 and 55 tonne with 756 permits issued to date   |
| July 2016                   | Additional detailed structural inspections post the June flood  |
| August to November 2016     | Assessment of structural inspections and development of a design specification and tender documents for remediation works an  |
| Mid November                | Calling of tenders for the remediation works  |
| Mid December                | Closing of tenders and then assessment of tenders   |
| Late December               | Acceptance of preferred tender  |
| Mid February                | <b>Dependent of acceptance of tender</b> – community engagement regarding traffic management for the rehabilitation works method proposed by the contractor                                       |
| Late March to End June 2017 | <b>Dependent of acceptance of tender</b> – bridge remediation works   |
| End June 2017               | <b>Dependent of acceptance of tender</b> – removal of traffic management  |
| July 2017                   | Testing of bridge post repairs to determine final required load limits and communicate results to community   |

---

Report of Infrastructure to the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Monday 21 November 2016

---

**IN3 – Remediation Works for Blaxland Crossing Bridge – Project Update**

A Tender Assessment Panel (TAP) has been formed including representatives of both Councils plus 2 x independents. Tender documents are being prepared with the view of commencing the tender period in mid-November.

With respect to the potential program issues around tenders being assessed after the last Council meeting of 19 December 2016; recent changes to the Local Government Act 1993 will allow this tender to be accepted by the General Manager under delegated authority and will not require a report to council for acceptance.

**CONSULTATION**

Penrith City Council

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications for this report.

The repair of this bridge will have a cost to Council estimated at \$300,000 with Penrith City Council contributing a further \$300,000. Wollondilly's contribution has been listed as a project under the Major Roads & Bridge Works component of the draft Operational Plan Major Works Program. Should the value of the works exceed the allocated budget, a further report to council may be required.

**POLICIES & LEGISLATION**

Road Act 1993  
Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL) as amended 6 February 2016

**ATTACHMENTS**

Nil.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council note the progress of the project to date and that in order to manage the time impacts on the community, that the tender for the rehabilitation works will be accepted under delegated authority by the General Manager.