



Presentation to Clarence Valley Council

5 April 2011

Maclean Council Chambers



Opening comments and project update – Bob Higgins

Project overview – Chris Clark

December 2010 community update and postal survey – Chris Clark

Shortlisting of community suggestions and project process - Chris Clark

Technical investigations - Chris Clark

Heavy vehicle study - Chris Clark

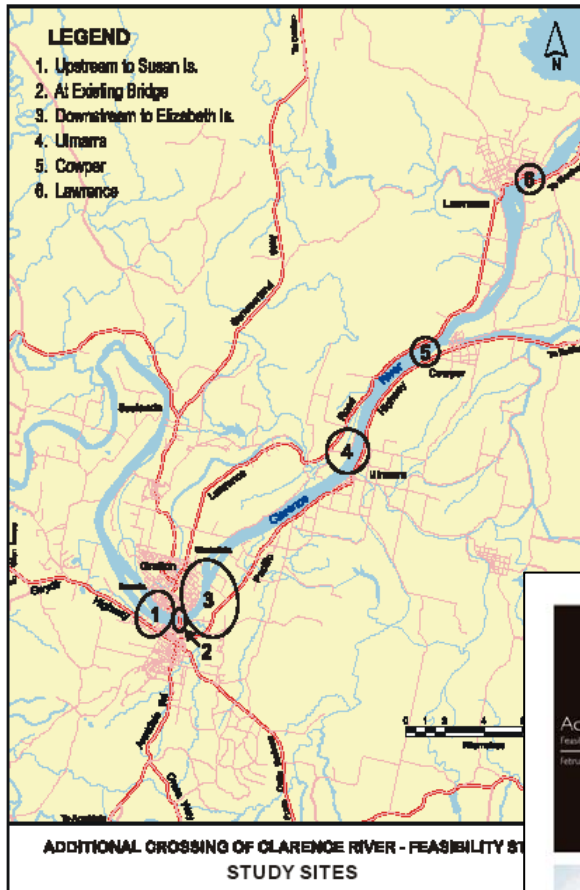
What happens next? – Chris Clark

Questions – Bob Higgins and Chris Clark

Some key points:

- Revised process commenced December 2010
- No preferred option has been identified
- We want input from Council and the community into the process and project
- Decision by RTA and the Minister on the preferred option to be taken to the next stage

Project overview

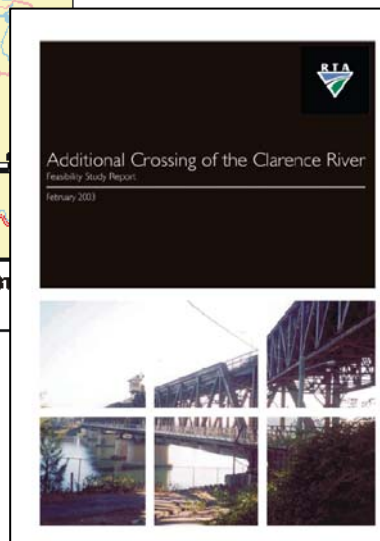


Investigations (Reports available on RTA website):

- 2003 – 04
- Recommended 2009

Feasibility Study (2003):

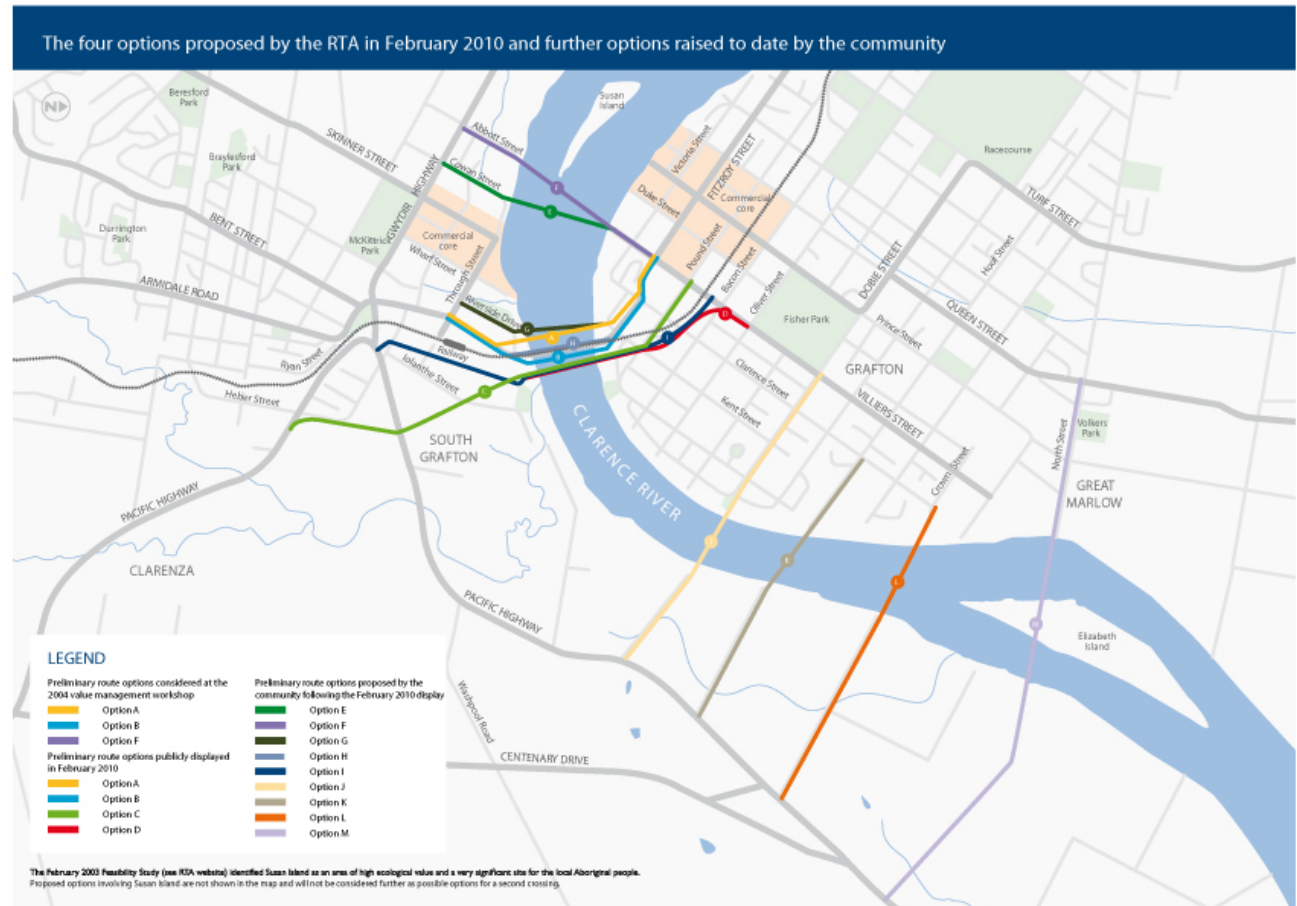
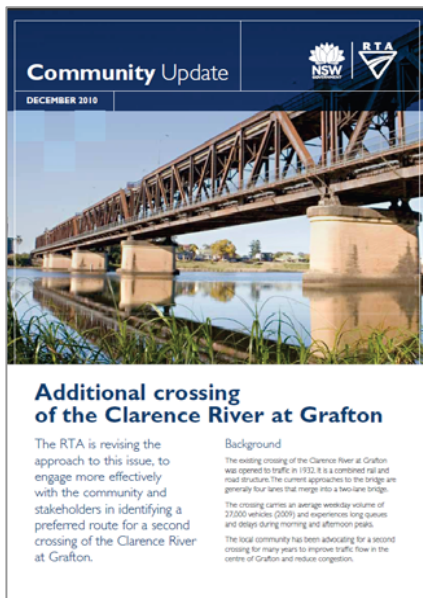
- Investigated six strategic locations for an additional crossing between Susan Island and Lawrence
- Study concluded:
 - Most feasible location in the vicinity of the existing bridge
 - Locations upstream and downstream of the existing bridge also feasible.
 - Further investigations required.
 - Locations at Ulmarra, Cowper and Lawrence are not feasible as they:
 - Do not meet a number of the objectives of the project.
 - Would not contribute greatly to reducing congestion or improving safety at the existing bridge.



December 2010 Community Update



- Announced revised approach
- Identified 13 options between Susan and Elizabeth Islands (including 7 outside February 2010 study area)
- Included postal survey



DECEMBER 2010

Announce community surveys and revised approach to engage more effectively with the community in identifying a preferred route

MARCH 2011

Further community forums on route options

Review feasibility of community suggestions

WE
ARE
HERE

MAY 2011

Display preliminary route option reports including constraints for community comment

Evaluation workshops including the community to assist in identifying a short list of route options

Announce and invite comment on short list of route options

Consider public submissions

Value Management Workshop

RTA investigations

Identify and announce recommended preferred option for community comment

LATE 2011

Consider submissions from display of recommended preferred route option

Identify and announce preferred route option

EARLY 2012

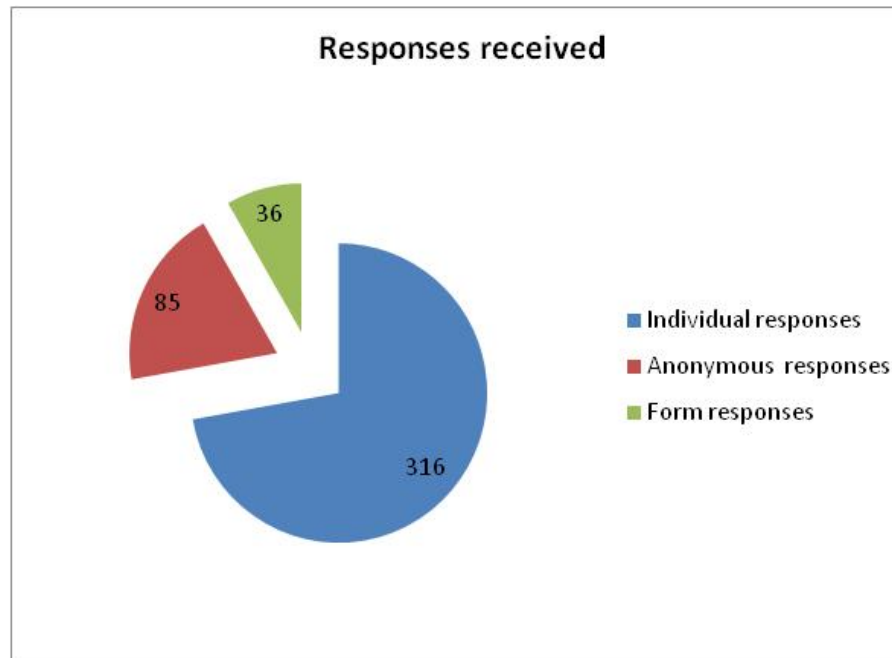
Consideration and decision by the RTA and the Minister for Roads on the preferred route option and preserve the route



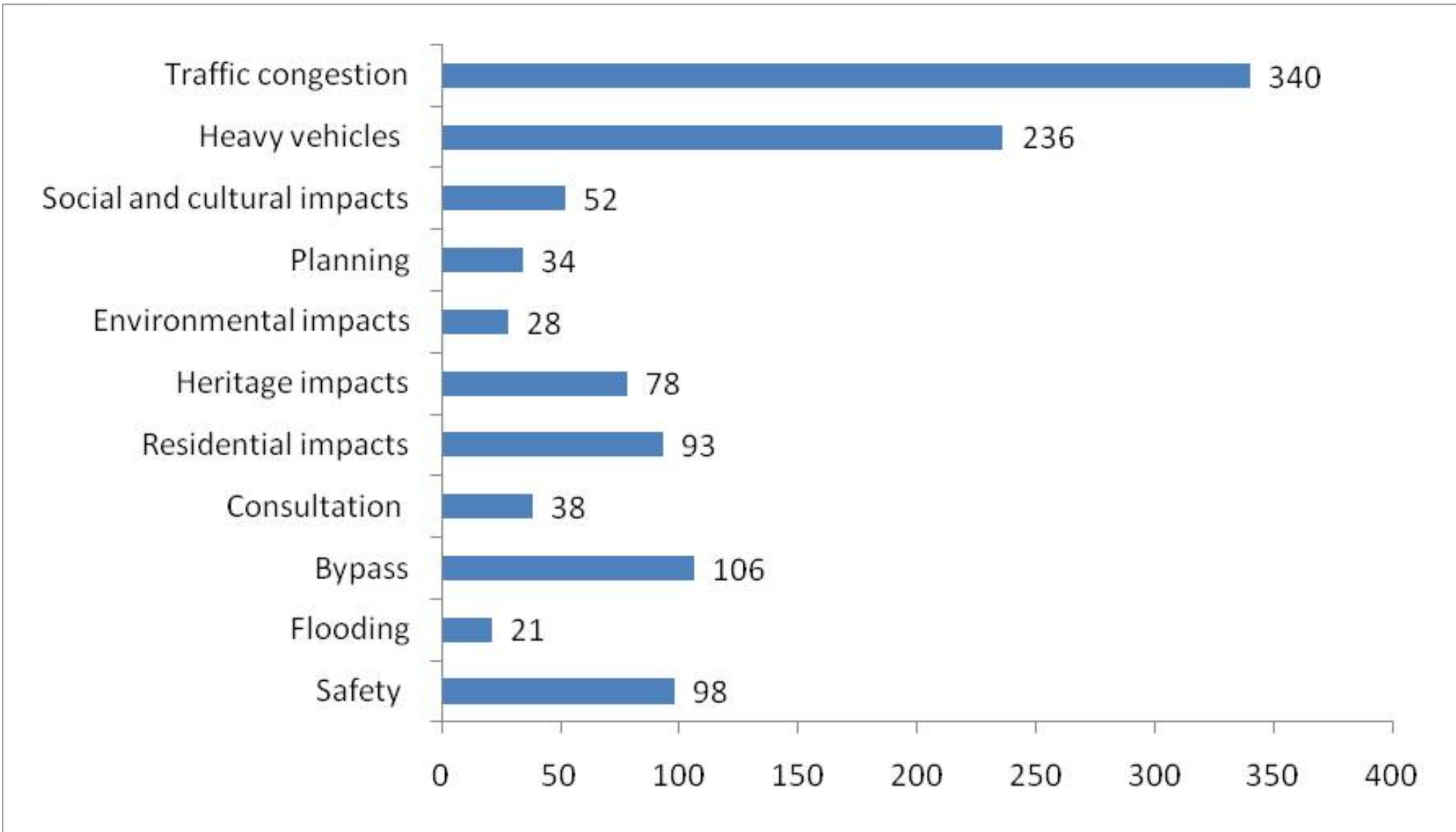
Transport
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Postal survey - Community feedback

- 437 submissions received.



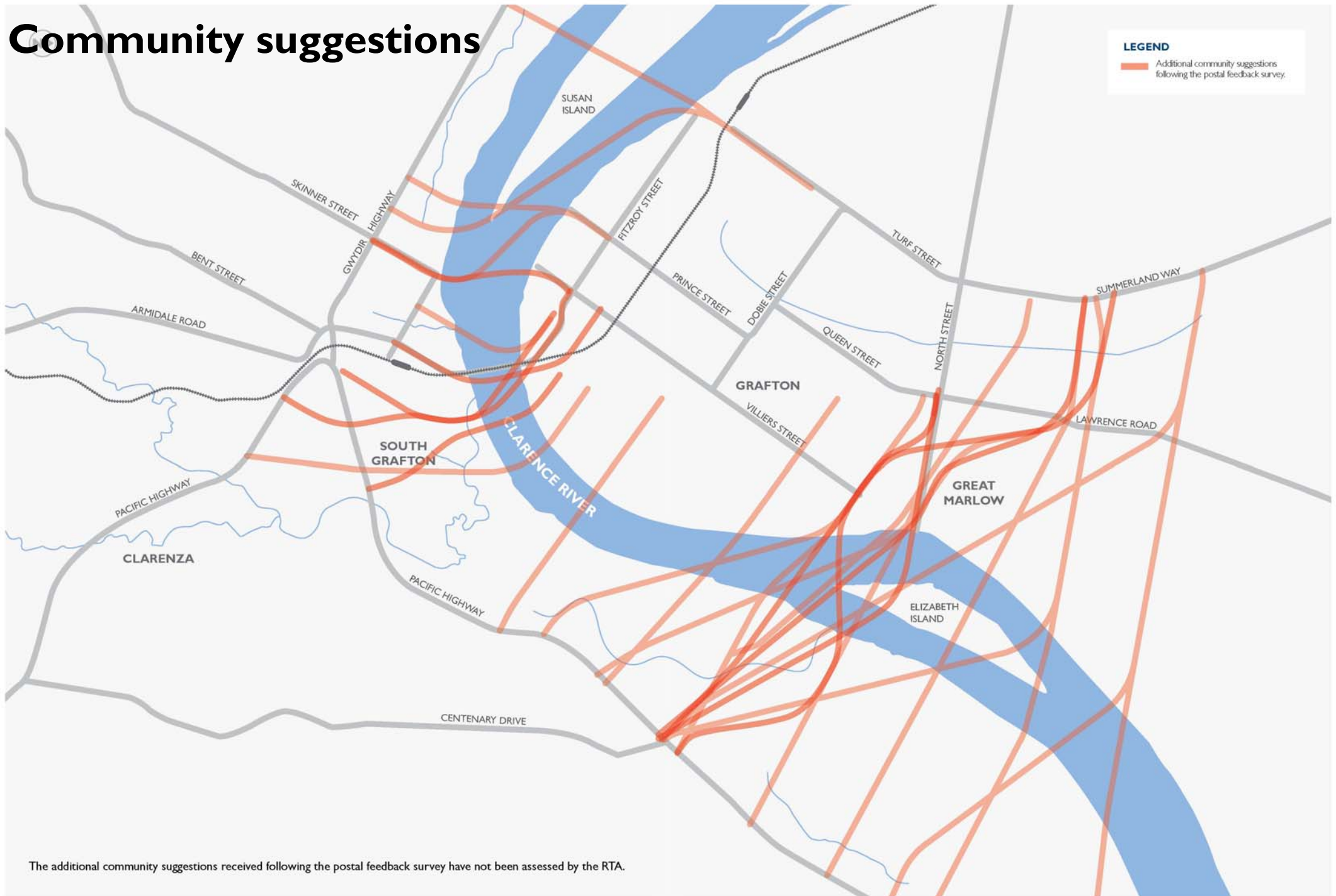
- Feedback received from the questionnaire was extensive, received from across the Clarence Valley
- Support and opposition for options upstream of the bridge, in the vicinity of the bridge and downstream of the bridge



- The community focused on the key issues of traffic congestion and heavy vehicles.

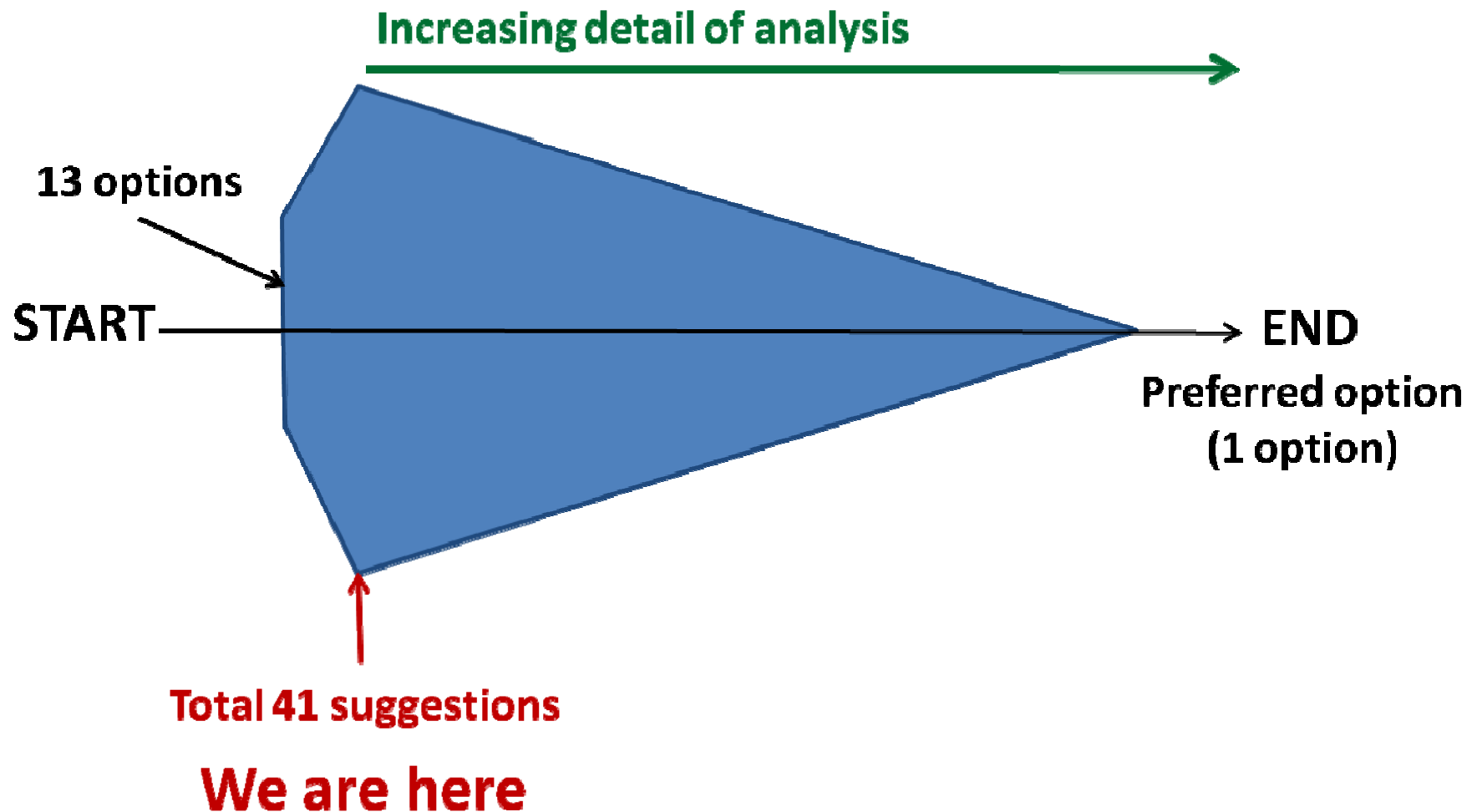
Community suggestions

LEGEND
Additional community suggestions following the postal feedback survey.



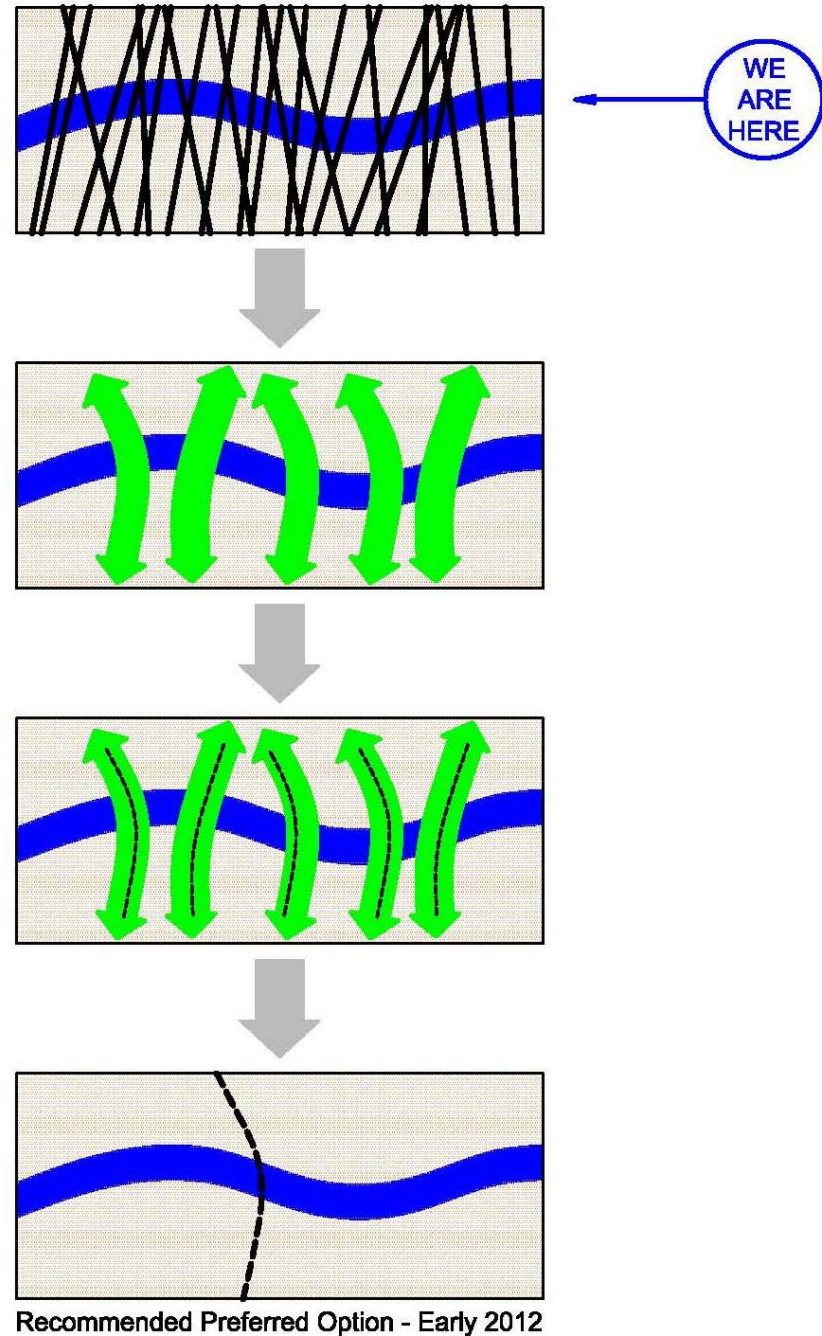
The additional community suggestions received following the postal feedback survey have not been assessed by the RTA.

Main purpose of the study is to go from 41 routes to 1



Methodology for short-listing community suggestions

- Three methods discussed at forum on 3 March 2011 - No community preference expressed
- Method 2 adopted
- Feedback from 3 March community forum about information that will assist in evaluating suggestions will be used during the short-listing process
- 5 corridors identified



2-WAY COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Method 2

CC

Corridors:

- Upstream of existing bridge
- Adjacent to existing bridge
- **Between the existing bridge and North Street**
- Pacific Highway to North Street
- Pacific Highway to Summerland Way, north of North Street.

LEGEND

Route Suggestions in Corridor 3

- Option A to M (Community Update December 2010)
- Community Suggestions (Community Feedback December 2010 to March 2011)
- Corridor 03
- Rail
- Major Roads
- Minor Roads
- Streams
- Levee
- Commercial Core
- State Heritage Items
- River
- Flooding Extents 1:20 ARI Event
- Public Open Space / Park

EXAMPLE ONLY

Route Suggestions in Corridor 3

Meters
0 200 400 800

ARUP
Date Created: 30/03/11

Projected Coordinate System:
GDA 1994, MGA Zone 56
Data Source: ARUP, RTA 2011

SCALE 1:20,000 @ A3

➤ Functional issues:

- o Road safety

- o Traffic and transport efficiency

- Future traffic volumes and travel patterns.

- Use of new and existing bridge.

- Capacity of existing roundabouts / intersections need for upgrades.

- Connections to CBD and Regional Road network.

➤ Heritage impacts:

- o Aboriginal

- Areas of significance to the local Aboriginal community

- o Non-Aboriginal

Technical investigations underway (cont.)



➤ Socio-economic issues:

- Land use
- Urban character
- Amenity (lifestyle) impacts – including noise, vibration and visual impacts
 - Level of traffic noise
 - Increase in traffic noise
- Business impacts
- Flooding impacts
 - Height and extent of increase in flood level
 - Flood mitigation measures

➤ Ecological issues:

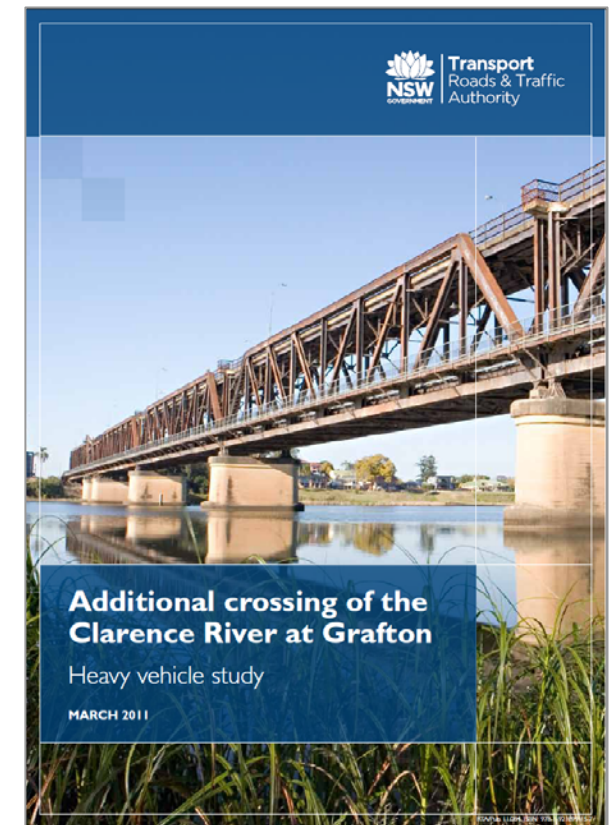
- Terrestrial ecology
- Aquatic ecology

➤ Economic issues:

- Cost
- Value for money (Benefit / cost ratio)

Heavy Vehicle Study (March 2011)

- Purpose - To obtain an understanding of the **existing**:
 - Traffic volumes and classification
 - Points of origin and destination of traffic using the Grafton Bridge
 - Travel patterns over a daily and weekly period
 - Bus movements and utilisation
- Complement previous studies and other traffic data (incl. March 2009 study)
- How will this information be used in this project?



Heavy Vehicle Study Methodology



Transport
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Origin and
Destination
Surveys



Vehicle
travel
data



Classified
tube counts

Questionnaire
of Heavy
Vehicle
companies



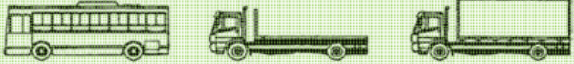









Vehicle Classification

Light Vehicles



Heavy Vehicles

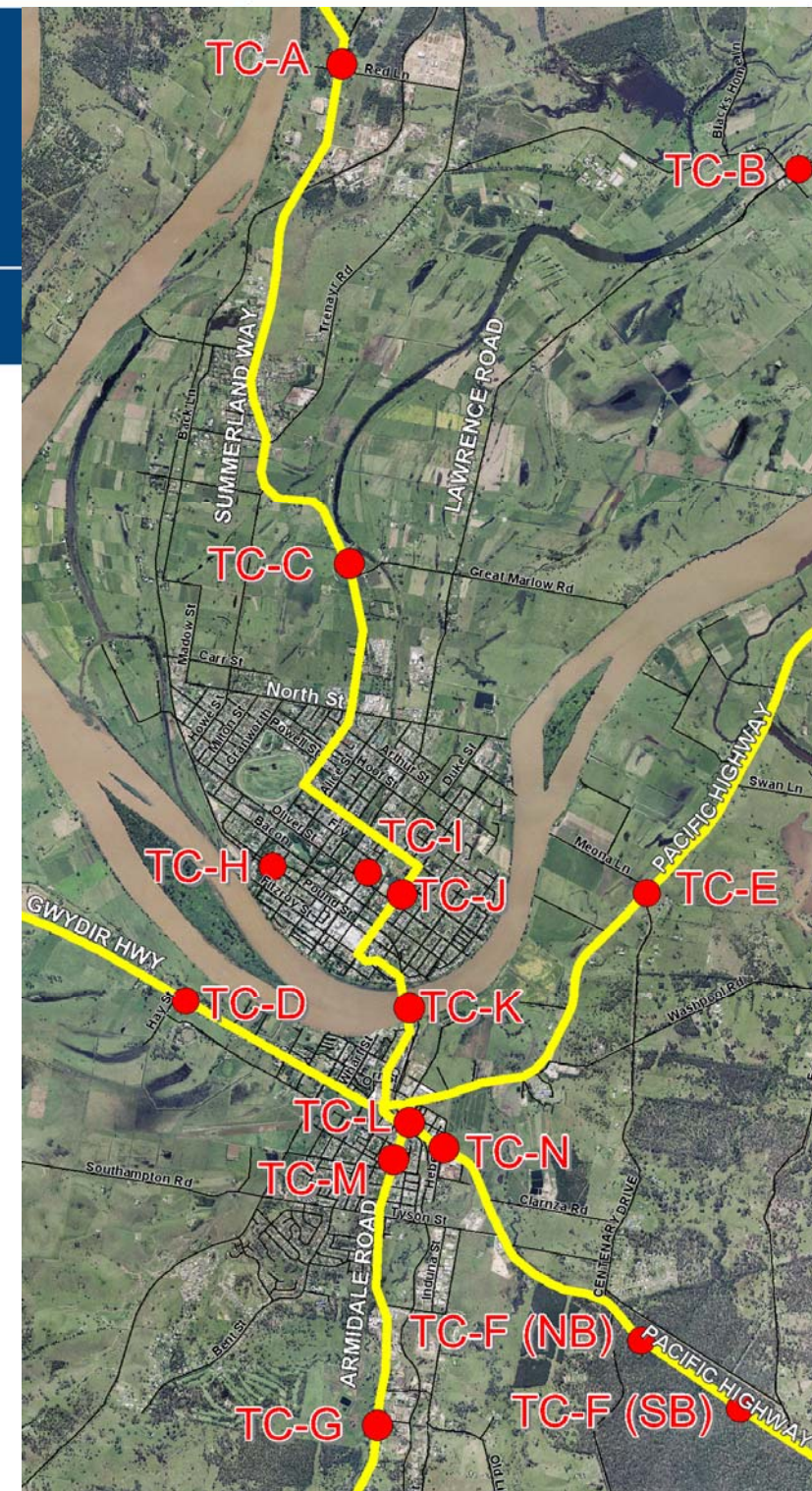
Vehicle Description	Class	Typical Configuration
Light Vehicles		
Short	1	
Short - Towing	2	
Heavy Vehicles		
Two Axle Truck or Bus	3	
Three Axle Truck or Bus	4	
Four Axle Truck	5	
Three Axle Articulated	6	
Four Axle Articulated	7	
Five Axle Articulated	8	
Six Axle Articulated	9	
B Double	10	

CLASSIFIED TUBE COUNT SURVEYS



Classified Tube Counts

- 14 tube count locations between 19th and 26th August 2010
- Vehicles recorded by direction and vehicle type



Key findings of the classified tube counts (Mon – Fri) are:

➤ Grafton Bridge:

- Total traffic - 27,580 vehicles per weekday (average)
- Heavy vehicles - 1,390 per weekday (5% of total traffic)

➤ Summerland Way:

- North of Butterfactory Lane – 610 heavy vehicles per weekday
- North of Junction Hill – 380 heavy vehicles per weekday

➤ Gwydir Highway - 445 heavy vehicles per weekday

➤ Pacific Highway – 2,200 heavy vehicles per weekday

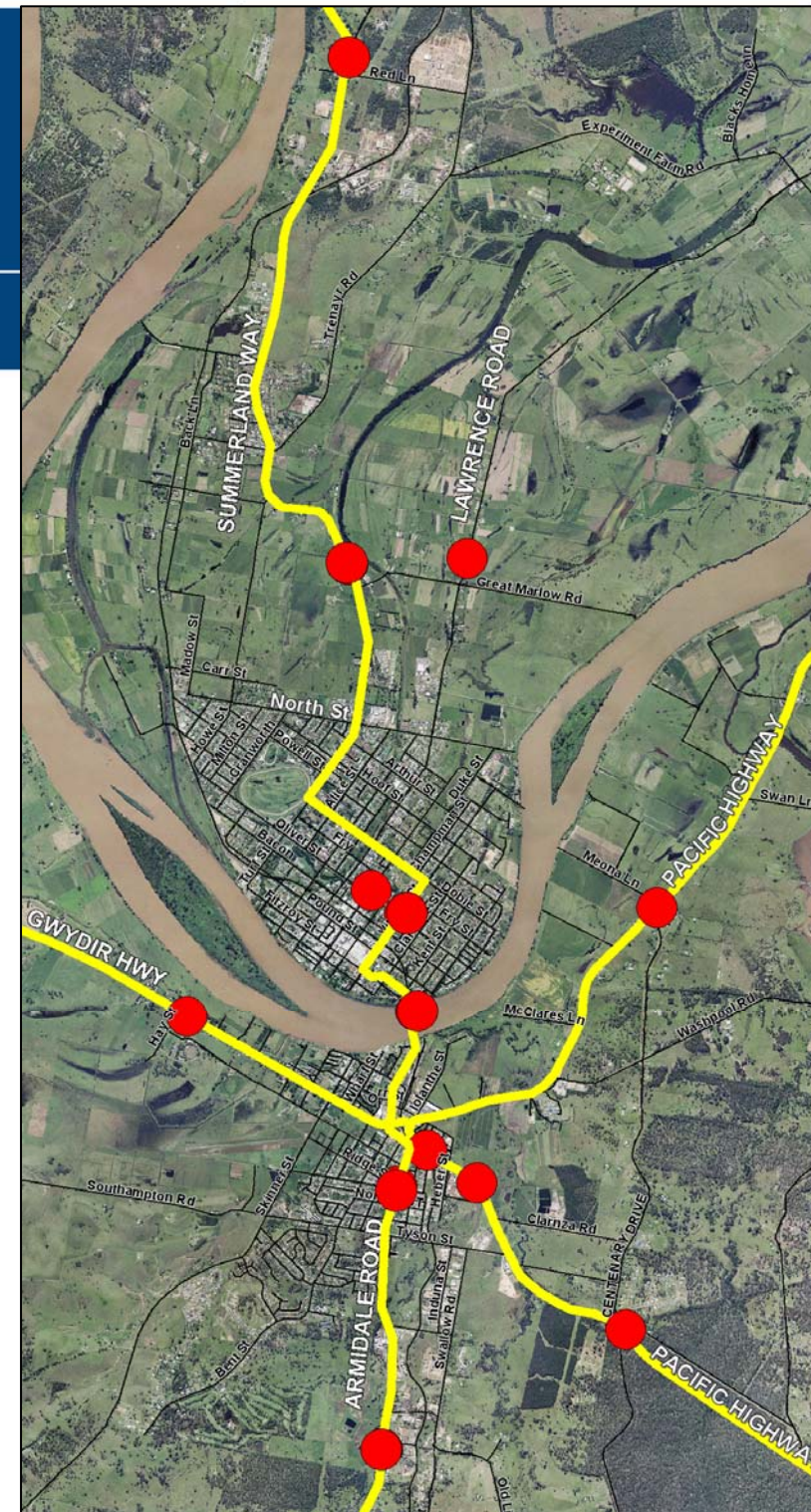


ORIGIN AND DESTINATION SURVEYS



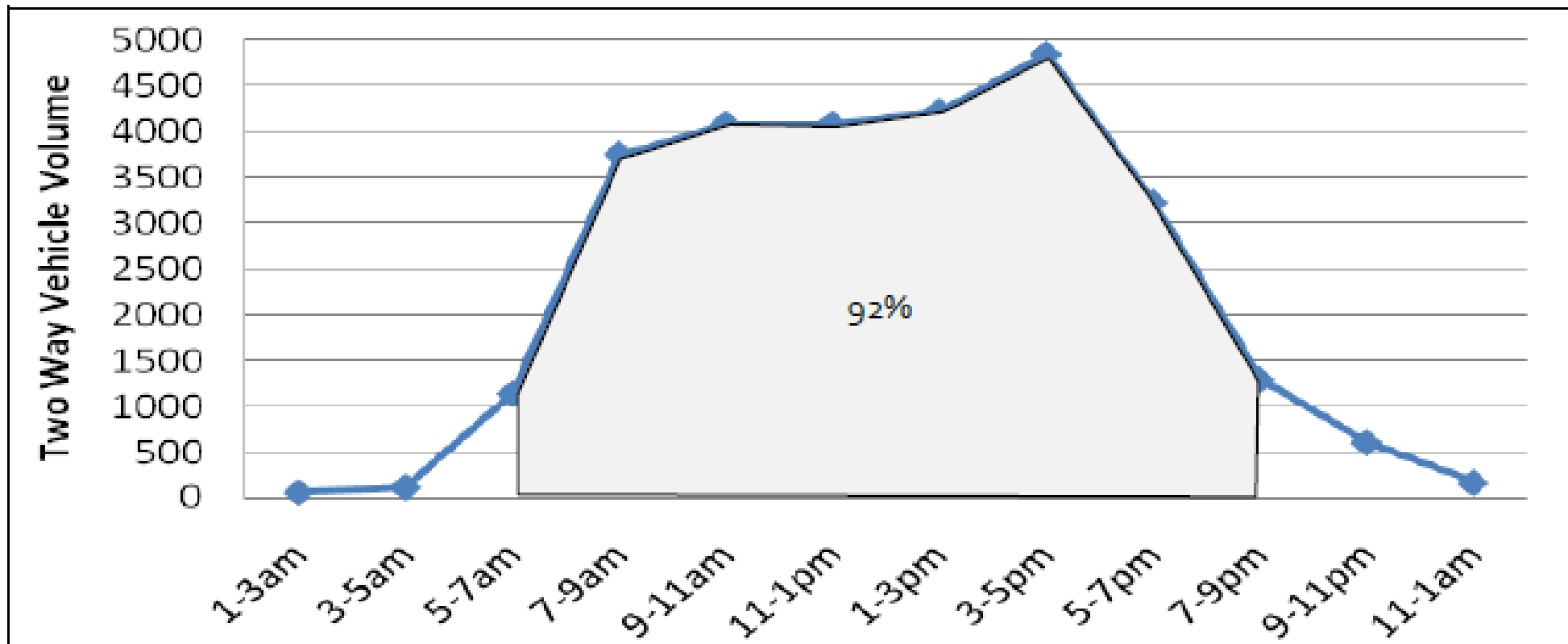
Origin and Destination Surveys

- 13 Survey Locations
- Locations chosen to separate the local and regional network including heavy vehicle generating precincts
- Surveys completed using video cameras on Thursday 19th August, 2010 between 5am - 7pm
- Number plates of each vehicle passing each camera recorded
- Vehicles matched against other stations to determine their origins and destinations
- Vehicles were classified by type



Origin and Destination Surveys

Surveys represented 92% of the total traffic crossing the Grafton Bridge on the day of the survey.

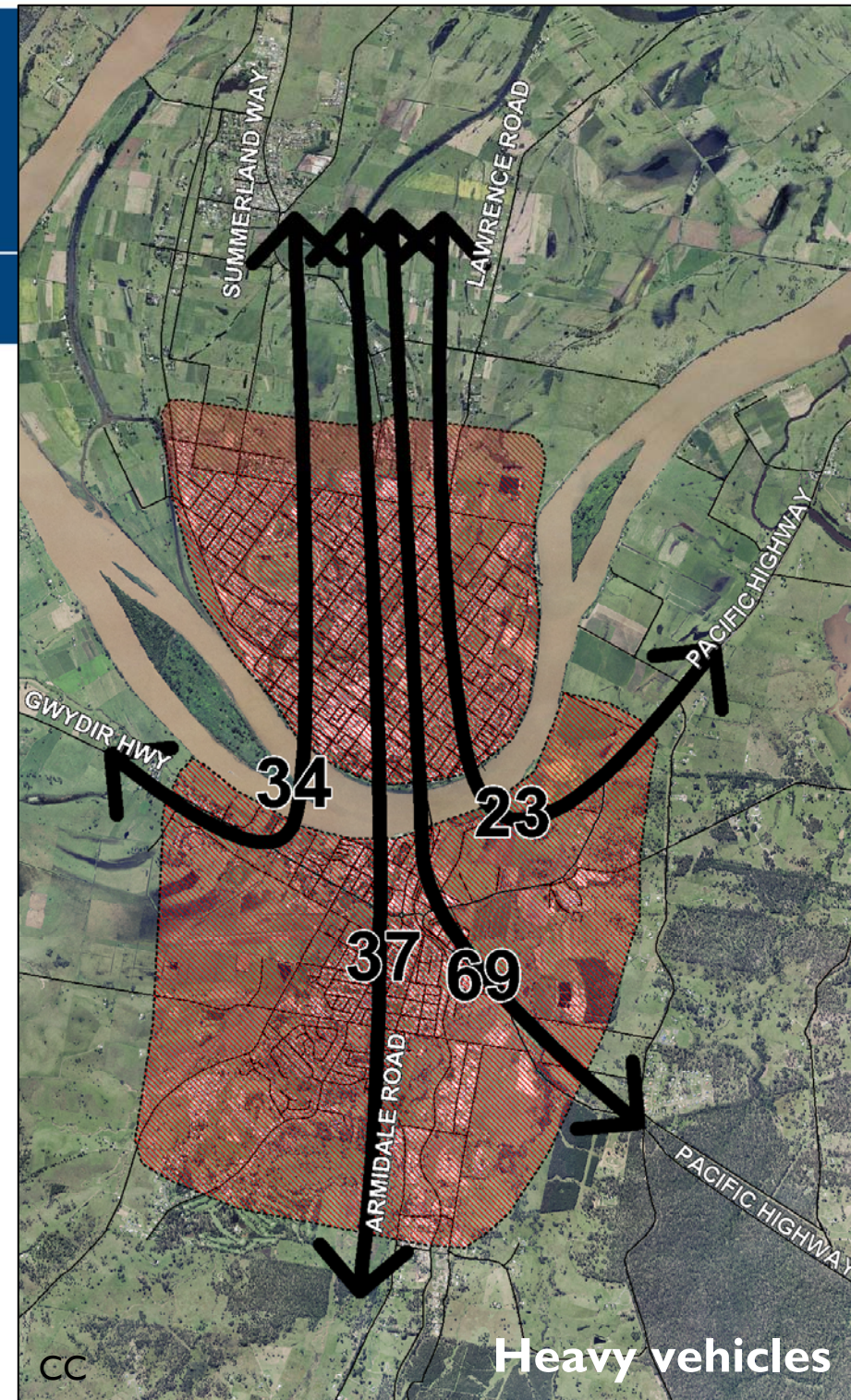


Origin and Destination Surveys

External to External Trips

Number of Heavy vehicle trips on the 19th August 2010 (5am-7pm) crossing the Grafton Bridge that do not have an origin and/or destination in Grafton or South Grafton

Vehicle Type	No. vehicles	% of vehicles crossing bridge
All	728	3
Heavy	163	12

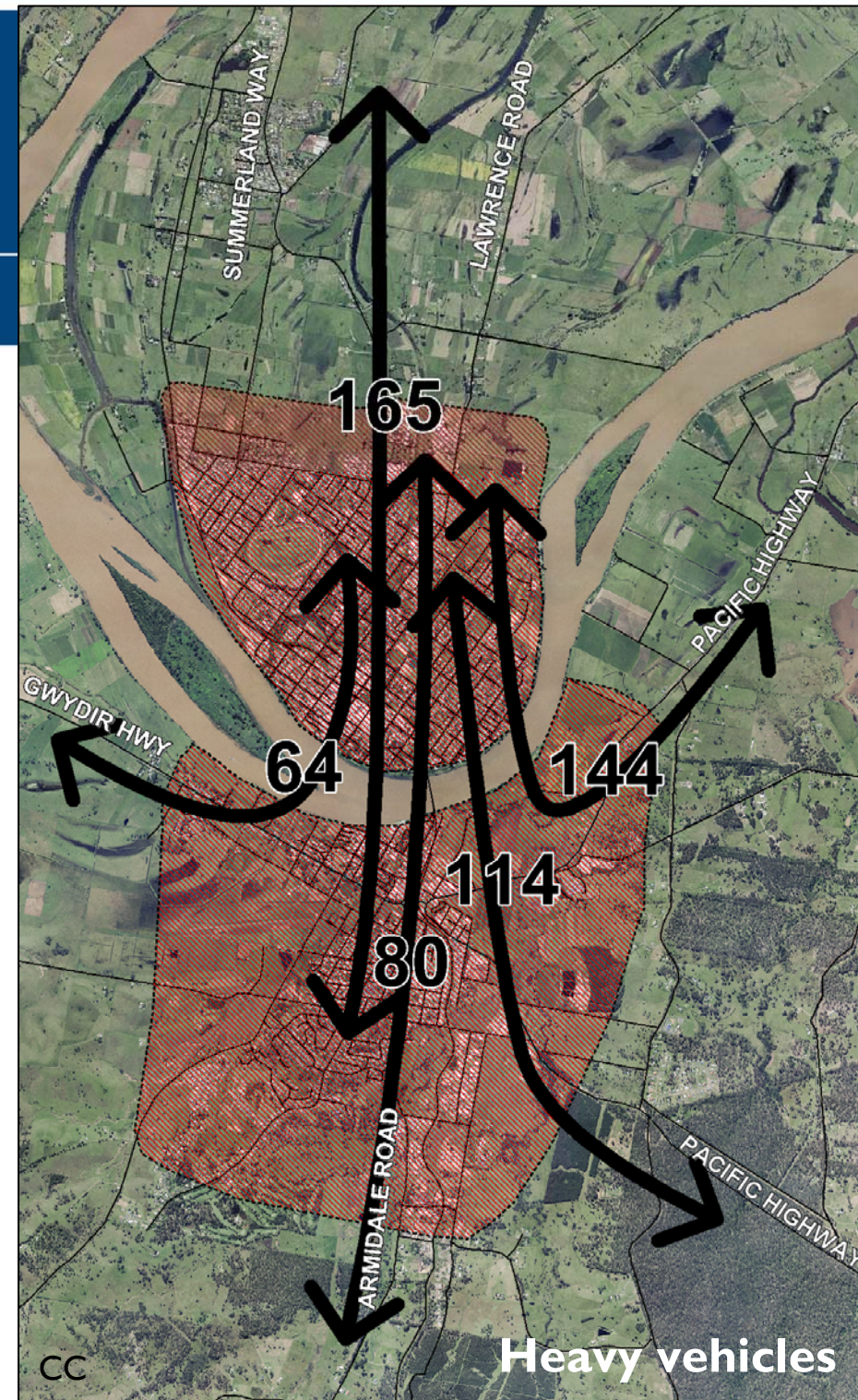


Origin and Destination Surveys

External to Internal Trips

Number of Heavy vehicle trips on the 19th August 2010 (5am-7pm) crossing the Grafton Bridge that have an origin and/or destination in Grafton or South Grafton

Vehicle Type	No. vehicles	% of vehicles crossing bridge
All	10,360	39
Heavy	567	41

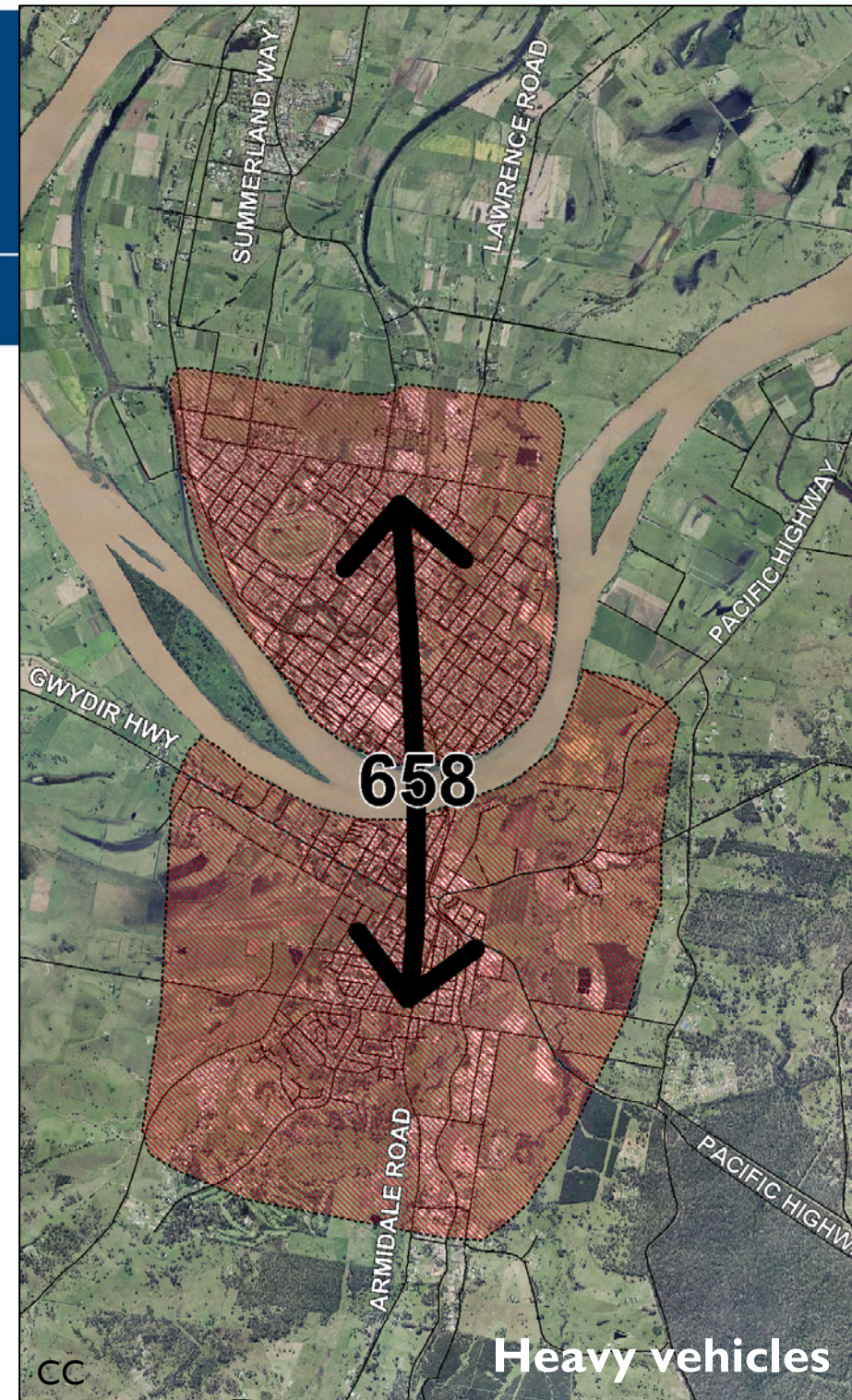


Origin and Destination Surveys

Internal to Internal Trips

Number of Heavy vehicle trips on the 19th of August 2010 (5am-7pm) crossing the Grafton Bridge that travel between Grafton and South Grafton

Vehicle Type	No. vehicles	% of vehicles crossing bridge
All	15,466	58
Heavy	658	47

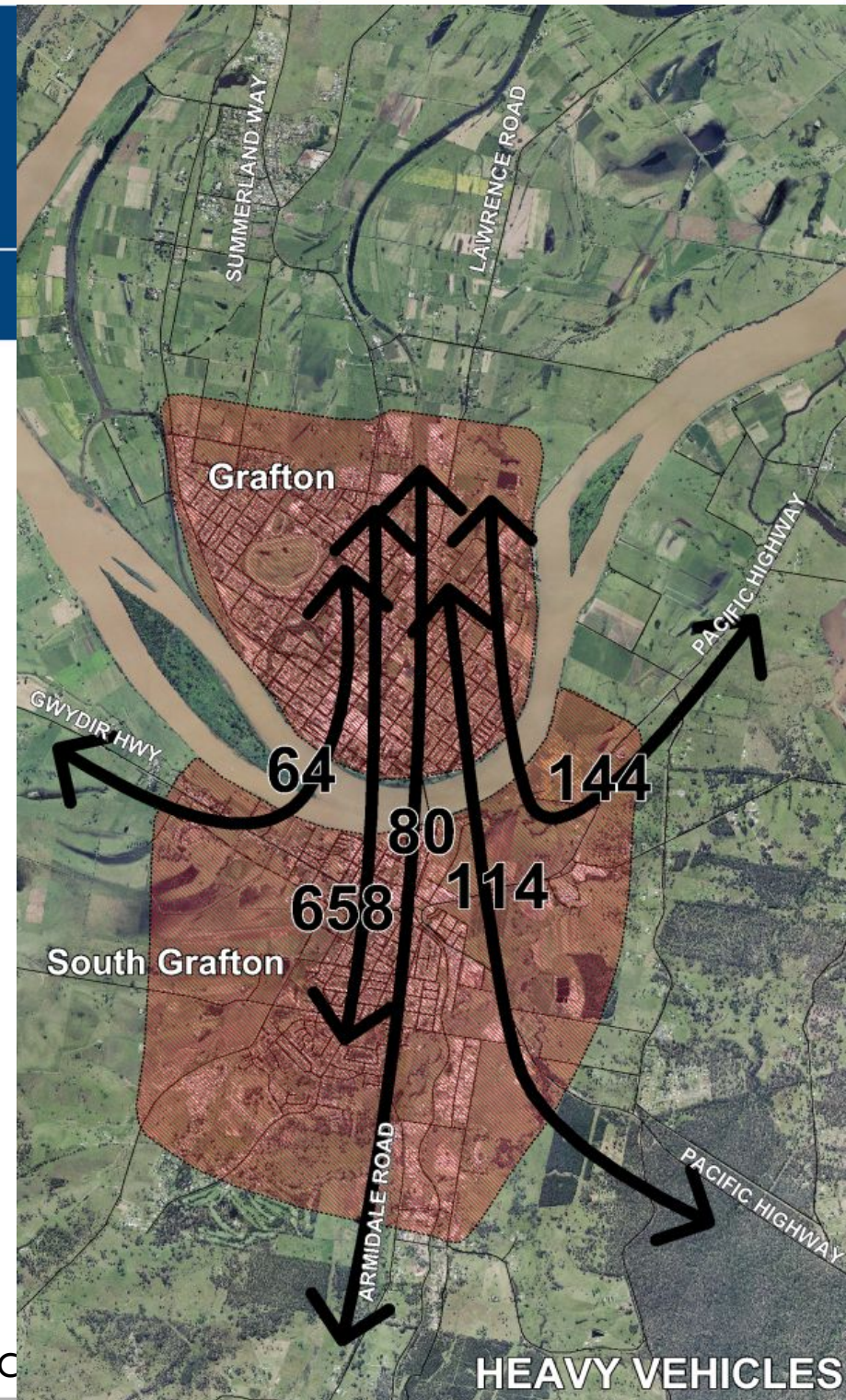


Origin and Destination Surveys

Trips starting or ending in Grafton

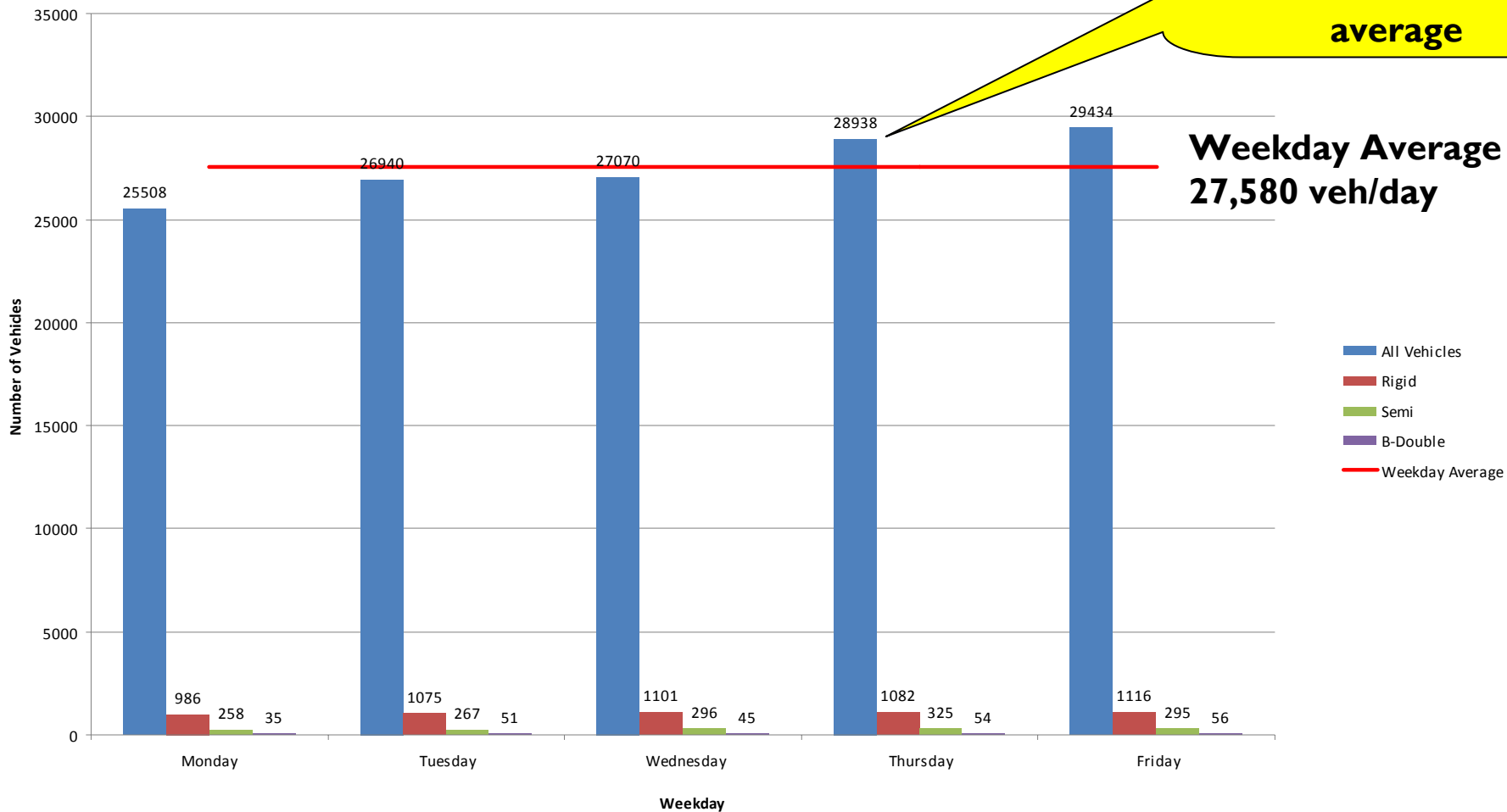
Number of Heavy vehicle trips on the 19th of August 2010 (5am-7pm) crossing the Grafton Bridge that have an origin or destination in Grafton

Vehicle Type	No. vehicles	% of vehicles crossing bridge
All	24,244	91
Heavy	1,060	76



Comparison of Thursday traffic to weekday average

Tube Count Data Summary for the Grafton Bridge (Site K)
All Vehicle Types



Between 5am and 7pm on Thursday 19th August 2010:

- Of the 26,554 vehicles that crossed the Grafton Bridge:
 - 3% were through vehicles (external to external)
 - 91% started or ended their trip in Grafton

- Of the 1,388 heavy vehicles that crossed the Grafton Bridge:
 - 12% were through heavy vehicles (external to external)
 - 76% started or ended their trip in Grafton

How will this information be used in the project?



Transport
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Background Review
of existing data from
previous surveys



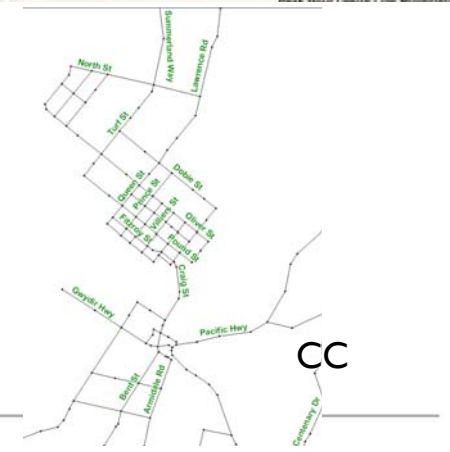
Undertake Additional
Surveys (i.e. HV Study) to
supplement previous data



Identify Travel
Patterns



Input into Strategic
Modelling



What happens next?

➤ April 2011

- Review and finalise project purpose and objectives based on community feedback
- Finalise report on postal survey and place on project website
- Finalise report on phone survey and place on project website
- Carry out business survey
 - Being developed by Jetty Research
 - On-line survey through the Grafton Chamber of Commerce database
 - Businesses not on Chamber database invited to participate

➤ May 2011

- Finalise report on business survey and place on project website
- Identify feasible options within each corridor to be taken forward for further assessment
- Community forum to provide input into further assessment of feasible options

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Transport
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Authority

Additional crossing of the Clarence River



Transport
Roads & Traffic
Authority

QUESTIONS?

