PROJECT MANAGERS UPDATE - SEPTEMBER 2012

Message from Chris Clark

Following the release of the Route Options Development Report on Monday 10 September, visual representations from the detailed traffic modelling undertaken are now available on the project website.

The visual representations include:

- Current traffic movements using the 2011 traffic data.
- Predicted traffic movements in 2049 in AM and PM peak periods (30 years after the assumed date of opening for each of the new crossings).

Key inputs into the model include:

- Growth forecasts as developed by Clarence Valley Council and the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (as documented in the Mid North Coast Regional Strategy (DP&I, 2009)).
- Traffic counts and travel time surveys.
- Road network characteristics (lanes, speeds, intersection types etc).

A copy of the September 2012 community update and the *Route Options Development Report* is available on the project documents page of this website, by visiting a display location or contacting the project team.

The report describes the preliminary concept designs for each of the six options and provides an assessment of each of the six options against a range of considerations, including traffic, flooding, geotechnical, landscape and urban design, social and economic, Aboriginal and non Aboriginal heritage, flora and fauna, noise, cost and value for money.

Your feedback will provide valuable input into the decision on a preferred route option and is invited by **12 October 2012**. The close of submissions has been extended in response to community requests.

Get involved in the project, learn about the six options and share your feedback. There are a number of events including staffed displays, information sessions, a public forum, a radio forum and an online forum to be held in the near future. Please see the website or September 2012 community update for details.

This is an important phase in the process and I encourage you to stay involved while the project moves forward. Community comment, the technical investigations and the outcomes of a value management workshop will help a decision on the preferred route option.

If you require any further information or have any questions or comments on the additional crossing of the Clarence River, please do not hesitate to contact us by phone, email or letter.

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