



# MEDIA RELEASE

The Hon. Greg Donnelly MLC

Country Labor MLC for the Electorate of Clarence



Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> July 2010

## **GRAFTON BRIDGE STUDY TIMETABLE EXTENDED**

Country Labor MLC for Clarence, Greg Donnelly said the RTA has extended the timetable for developing an additional crossing of the Clarence River.

"The project timetable has been changed to give the Clarence Valley community more input into the project and to assist the RTA with important investigations into heritage, flooding, ecology and traffic issues", Greg Donnelly said.

"The community will also be given the opportunity to review the community liaison plan which will be available to the public for comment this month", he said.

Greg Donnelly said community focus group meetings will be held to discuss and provide input on the community liaison plan.

"Community members and other stakeholders who have previously expressed an interest or concern regarding the consultation process are encouraged to attend", he said.

The focus groups will be held on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> August at 10.30am to 11.30am and again at 6.30pm to 7.30pm at the Community Centre in Duke Street, Grafton.

"The project team is looking at the preliminary options previously displayed and discussed with the community as well as issues raised by the community during the last consultation workshops", he said.

Greg Donnelly said all issues raised by the community are being reviewed during the community consultation and the RTA has commissioned further environmental and technical investigations.

"This additional time will assist the RTA to identify the best solution for everybody involved", he said.

As a result, the announcement of the preferred option is now expected to be made in mid 2011.

"Further consultation and workshops will be carried out before any decision is made on a preferred route", said Greg Donnelly.

People wanting to attend can call toll free on 1800 633 332.

For more information, please visit the RTA website: <http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au>