## **MEDIA RELEASE**



## 21 December 2009

## NEW CROSSING OF THE CLARENCE RIVER AT GRAFTON – CONSULTATION RESUMES

A study looking at the impact of building a second bridge at Grafton has been completed with consultation set to continue.

An RTA spokesperson said the traffic study suggests the best location for a new bridge is in the vicinity of the existing bridge.

"While the study has indicated the bridge should be located near the existing structure, no decision will be made without community consultation," the spokesperson said.

"The RTA's traffic study also identified the need for adequate connections between a new bridge and the existing road network.

"As a result, the RTA will develop options for road connections to a new bridge."

"Following community consultation an announcement of a preferred option is expected by the end of 2010.

"This is an important milestone which will give the community an opportunity to have a say.

"Early next year the RTA will be inviting the community to become involved in the development of the options.

"Community information sessions and other consultations will be held to identify the best location for a new bridge and approaches to achieve the best outcome for the whole of the community," the spokesperson said.

Residents and businesses of the Clarence Valley area are encouraged to become involved in this next phase of the planning process.

Further information, including a copy of the traffic study, is available on the RTA's website: www.rta.nsw.gov.au

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