Brig O’Johnston Bridge
Presentation

• Background
• Rehabilitation work
• Planning activities
• Community and stakeholder consultation
• Next steps.

October 2014
Background

- Built in 1880
- Assessed as high State heritage significance
- Oldest surviving timber truss bridge in NSW
- A representative and rare example of an Old Public Works Department (PWD) timber truss bridge.
Background

- Identified for conservation in the Roads and Maritime *Timber Truss Bridge Conservation Strategy*, developed in consultation with the Heritage Council of NSW

- Part of the NSW Government Bridges for the Bush program.
Rehabilitation work

Rehabilitation is required to:

• Strengthen the bridge to meet current vehicle loads and heavy vehicle requirements
• Help reduce future maintenance costs.

The proposal involves replacing and strengthening the bridge structure including the bridge piers, abutments, approach spans, deck, timber trusses and road approaches.

October 2014
Rehabilitation work

View of the timber trusses, members under the bridge and the cast iron piers
Rehabilitation work

View of the bridge deck and bailey bridge structure

View of the current abutment
Heritage requirements

- Retaining key elements of high heritage significance
- Upgrading the bridge to keep it in use for the future.
Structural requirements

• Increase the capacity of the bridge to safely carry semi-trailer loads of 42.5 tonnes
• Strengthen the bridge to enable operational service without load limit
• Increase under capacity timber elements by replacing with timber and using steel at critical locations to strengthen the structure.
Planning activities

• While the details are still being worked through, it’s likely that some of the work cannot be completed without closing the bridge.
• Roads and Maritime is investigating different options to carry out the work with minimum impact to motorists and the community.
• No final decisions have been made on timing of the work or extent of bridge closures required.
• The work is expected to take around two years to complete.
Community consultation

• Roads and Maritime will work with the community to understand issues concerning work impacts and bridge closures
• The proposed delivery schedule and bridge closures will be presented for feedback as investigations progress
• Feedback received will be considered to plan the work schedule and bridge closures.
Next steps

• Complete design work in consultation with the Office of Environment and Heritage
• Complete investigations into delivery options
• Community consultation on delivery options and bridge closures
• Complete review of environmental factors and display for community comment.

Pending approval from Heritage Council of NSW to proceed, work is expected to start in 2015.
A drop-in information session will be hosted by Roads and Maritime on:

Saturday 25 October 2014
9am to 1pm
Clarence Town School of Arts

Roads and Maritime staff will be available to talk to about the project.
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