Project update – Brig O’Johnston Bridge at Clarence Town

Investigations are continuing for the rehabilitation of the historic Brig O’Johnston Bridge at Clarence Town. This update includes information on planning progress.

Roads and Maritime Services is continuing to plan for the rehabilitation of the historic Brig O’Johnston Bridge over the Williams River at Clarence Town.

We have been carrying out investigations into potential options for pedestrian access and building a new bridge in consideration of the community feedback received to date.

The options are in early planning stages and further development of a new bridge option is dependent on funding for detailed design and construction.

The new bridge would be under the care of Dungog Shire Council given it is located on a local road. Roads and Maritime would continue to manage and maintain the existing heritage-listed bridge.

We are working with Dungog Shire Council to help secure funding for a new bridge through State and Australian government programs including Fixing Country Roads and Bridges Renewal.

If funding can be secured, detailed design and community consultation for a new bridge would be progressed.

Heritage legislation requires that the existing heritage bridge be maintained and remain in operation regardless of whether a new bridge is built.

The existing bridge would be rehabilitated for continued use in carrying vehicles up to 42.5 tonnes and would be used in conjunction with a new bridge if it proceeds. Planning is subject to approval by the NSW Heritage Council.

Involving the community

The additional investigations have extended the project timeframes and community consultation is not expected to be carried out this year.

The availability of more detailed information for community consultation is dependent on whether funding is secured to proceed with the new bridge option.
Roads and Maritime will continue to keep the community informed as planning progresses through letterbox drops, advertising and the project web page at rms.nsw.gov.au

Contact

For further information on the project, please contact the Roads and Maritime Services Asset Manager Hunter Region, Joe Krsul on (02) 4924 0357 (during business hours) or Joe.Krsul@rms.nsw.gov.au. For more information on our projects, visit rms.nsw.gov.au.