Access to Berry

The proposed Foxground and Berry bypass would provide a four lane highway with median separation for approximately 11.6 kilometres on the Princes Highway between Toolijooa Road and Schofields Lane. It would include a bypass of Berry with access ramps at the north and south of the town.

This community update outlines the proposed RTA design improvements to the Berry access arrangements following discussions with Shoalhaven City Council and the community.

Alexandra Street access
no longer proposed

The preferred access arrangement for Berry, which was displayed in June 2009, included a southbound off ramp from the upgraded highway to Alexandra Street. This ramp would provide flood free access to Berry from the north.

Shoalhaven City Council and members of the Berry community requested the RTA consider providing an alternative arrangement, as they believe the proposed off ramp at Alexandra Street would:

- Change and impact local traffic and traffic flow patterns.
- Increase vehicle and pedestrian conflict in Alexandra Street.
- Result in too quick a change for high speed traffic entering a low speed environment.
- Impact the rural ambience of North Street.

The RTA has considered this request and has revised the preferred access arrangements for Berry to provide the proposed flood free southbound exit ramp at the Kangaroo Valley Road interchange (see overleaf).
Changes to proposed Kangaroo Valley Road interchange

The Kangaroo Valley Road interchange would now have four flood free ramps:

- Northbound off ramp to Huntingdale Park Road.
- Northbound on ramp from Kangaroo Valley Road.
- Southbound on ramp from Queen or Victoria streets.
- Southbound off ramp to Kangaroo Valley Road.

This proposed four way interchange would have a direct impact on several additional residences and would have a higher construction cost. However, this proposal would:

- Preserve the current traffic patterns within the established local rectangular road network.
- Improve road safety with less interaction between traffic and pedestrians in Alexandra Street.
- Preserve the rural ambience of North Street.
- Give high speed traffic more time to prepare for a low speed environment.
- Improve access to the growth area of Berry.

Berry project office

Should you wish to discuss this access change, the RTA’s Berry project office will be open on the following days from 10am to 5pm:

- Thursday 16 December 2010.
- Friday 17 December 2010.
- Tuesday 21 December 2010.

What are the next steps?

The Foxground and Berry bypass has been declared by the Minister for Planning to be a project of Regional significance and an environmental assessment will be carried out under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979.

The RTA is in the process of lodging an application for the project with the NSW Department of Planning.

The Department of Planning will consult various public agencies before providing the RTA with a list of requirements to be addressed by the environmental assessment. Following completion and a review of adequacy by the Department of Planning, the environmental assessment would go on public display, giving the community and stakeholders an opportunity to make submissions.

For more information:

Email foxgroundandberrybypass@rta.nsw.gov.au  web www.rta.nsw.gov.au  phone 1800 506 976 (free call) project information line

Foxground and Berry bypass AECOM, PO Box Q410, QVB Post Office, Sydney NSW 2000

Berry project office (Broughton Court) shop 3/113 Queen Street, Berry NSW 2535

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