

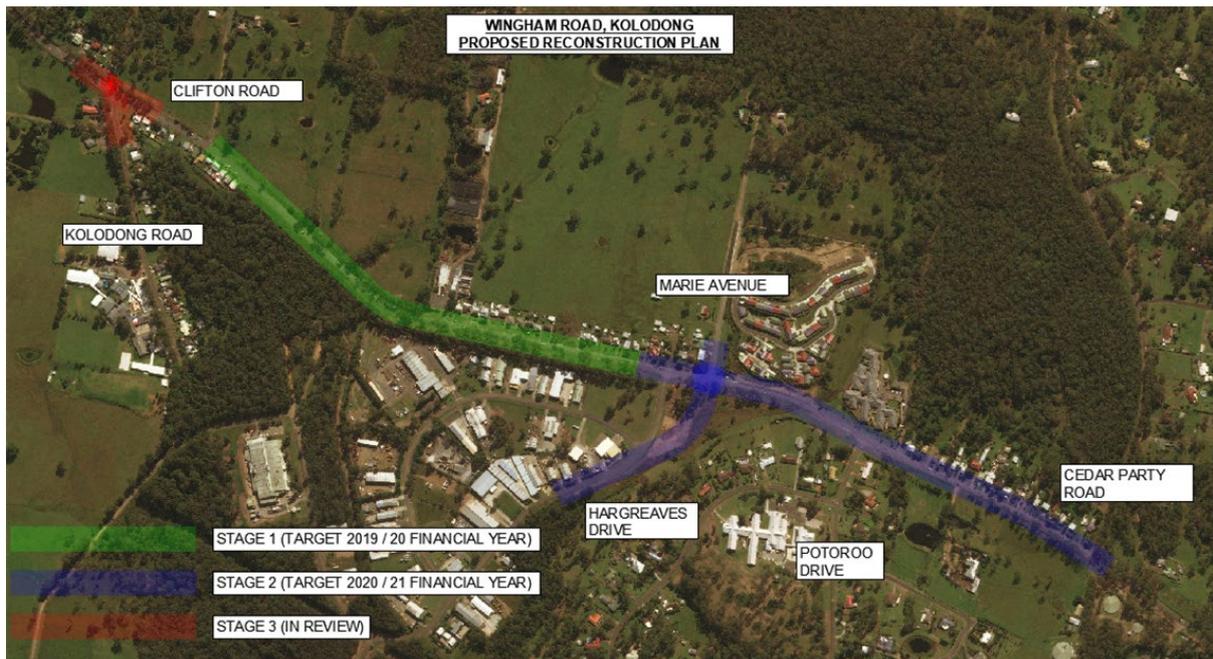


MIDCOAST
council

Wingham Road, Kolodong Major Road Project

AUGUST 2019

Engagement Outcomes Report



Introduction

This report provides a summary of community consultation that was undertaken on Wednesday 7 August 2019 across two sessions to gain community feedback on the proposed road rehabilitation of Wingham Road, Kolodong between Cedar Party Road and Clifton Road streets (non-inclusive).

This report is presented in four sections:

1. Introduction and background
2. What were people engaged on
3. What people said
4. Next steps

Project background

Kolodong is a small community on the edges of both Taree and Wingham. Embedded is a central hub of services for the local community and broader MidCoast community.

The community resonates with providing safety for both residents and visitors along with the many commuters who use Wingham Road in both commercial and heavy vehicles daily.

Kolodong is home to;

- Mayo Private Hospital
- Estia and Bushland Health aged care living
- Industrial area of local businesses
- Local school
- Large future land developments
- Residential living

Wingham Road has been identified as a road in need of rehabilitation to better serve the needs of this growing community.

What were people engaged on?

Purpose of engagement

The overall purpose of the engagement with the community was:

- To gain feedback from the community on the proposed scope of works and individual elements in the proposed design.

Objectives of engagement

To achieve this, the engagement had the following objectives:

- Provide key stakeholders and community with the opportunity to comment on the concept design for the proposed works and understand the potential impacts prior to the final design being drafted.
- Provide key stakeholders and community with detailed information on the proposed works, to help support participants to provide considered feedback.
- To educate the community and key stakeholders on the considerations given to the design.
- Ensure participants in the engagement feel their feedback is valued during this process and are informed of the how their feedback has informed the final design.
- To continue to build trust with our community and ensure that we deliver benefits by meeting the current and future needs of the community.
- Ensure the project is completed on time and within budget.

Project scope

Council propose to rehabilitate Wingham Road between Clifton Road and Cedar Party Road. The rehabilitation will be undertaken in two stages (and potentially a third) consisting of two main factors;

1. Complete rehabilitation of the existing road pavement.
2. Change to existing road layout with intersection treatments at both Potoroo and Cedar Party Road and the installation/realignment of Hargreaves Drive with Marie Avenue to allow a roundabout intersection treatment to be applied.

Some areas of the rehabilitation works were negotiable and were presented to the community with a design representative of those negotiable factors to gain their feedback.

The non-negotiable elements to the project included extensive rehabilitation works to the road surface and rectification of road levels for improved cross falls for drainage.

The original project scope was expanded following discussions held in other areas of Council pertaining an intersection treatment for Kolodong Road. It was identified as a priority for the Kolodong Road residents to be provided with comment on the proposed intersection treatment.

Due to the overwhelming concern in relation to this intersection we felt it was important to include a general comment on the status of the intersection upgrade. The proposal for an intersection treatment is under review at this stage and further consultation will be undertake when required with affected residents and business owners.

How did people have their say?

The range of engagement activities undertaken provided a variety of ways for the community to share their opinion and ideas, and generate community conversations. By providing a range of face-to-face and online engagement opportunities we were able to get input from a broad cross section of the community, including key interest groups, stakeholders and hard to reach groups.

Face-to-face engagement	Online and electronic engagement	Communications
<p>2 community workshops with 30+ participants</p>	<p>18 comments and 5 shares on Wingham Road Facebook posts</p>	<p>300 flyers hand delivered to local residents and businesses</p> <p>100+ flyers distributed</p> <p>Media coverage</p> <p>Advertisements in the Manning River Times</p>

Engagement activities

The following activities were used to seek input and build awareness of the community consultation on the proposed design for the Wingham Road rehabilitation.

Workshops

As a part of our face to face engagement we hosted two onsite community workshops, Wednesday 7 August at 10am and 6pm to educate community on the proposed design and gather feedback on the design.

The workshops involved a two display boards showing the design for the rehabilitation works highlighting valuable information such as the intersection treatments and major intersection changes. It also showed the staged approach to the project.

One on one meetings

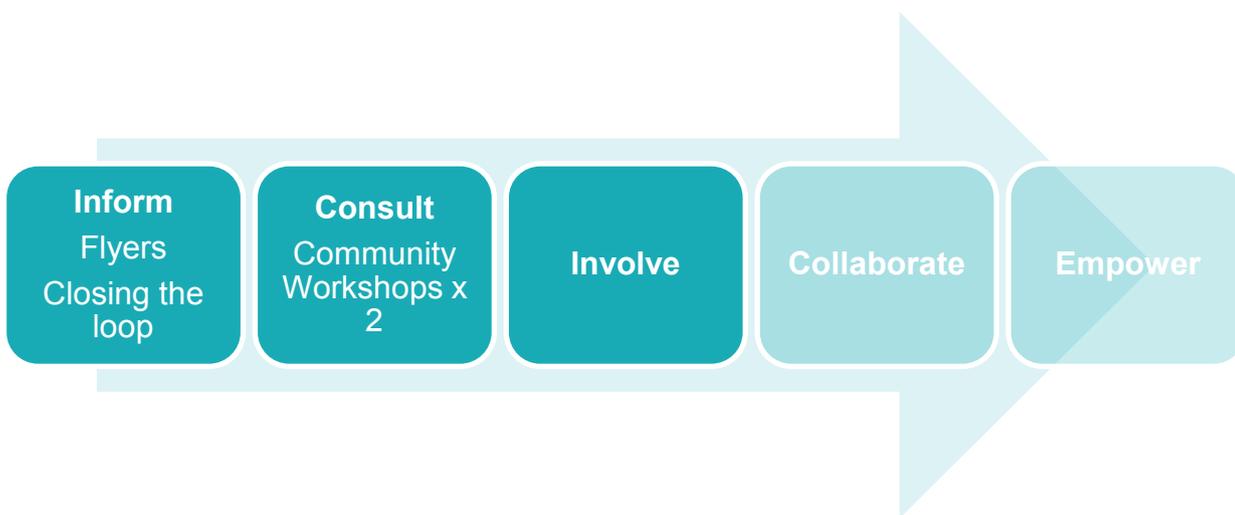
After identifying key stakeholder groups within the project, contact was made to offer a one on one meeting with the groups identified to deliver the plans and answer any questions that may have been specific to certain stakeholders. These were also held on 7 August 2019 throughout the day with multiple stakeholders in Kolodong directly impacted by the proposed works. The feedback from these meetings was very positive.

Level of engagement

As outlined in MidCoast Council's Community Engagement Policy we utilise the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) five-point framework for measuring the level of community engagement for each project.

Within this scale, this project achieved an Inform /Consult level of engagement. At this level our commitment to the community was to listen to and acknowledge the benefits and limitations of the proposed designs and consider these in the development of the final design.

The diagram below shows the levels of engagement and the activities undertaken within each level.



What people said?

Participants in the engagement were asked to provide feedback on the design and ask questions/ raise any concerns.

The following provides a summary of feedback obtained from the community workshops and one on one meetings.

*Note: the comments have been summarised and participants may have raised more than one point in their response. Comments provided are comments made by attendees of the pop up sessions and do not represent the entire community.

Overall response

- Happy with the project
- Plans are representative of what is needed in the area
- Potoroo intersection treatment could be looked at for a roundabout to improve the safety/access during peak periods

Questions raised

Q. Has a tender been awarded?

A. No, this will be an open tender process and please look at our website and media releases for any further information as it becomes available throughout the process.

Q. Who is paying for the roundabout at Marie Avenue?

A. Council is funding this project through part Section 94 development contribution funding and part funding from the \$100 million Roads Program.

Q. Why did a traffic report find a 'seagull' intersection treatment as the preferred treatment for a potential upgrade a Kolodong Road intersection and Council has further mentioned a roundabout?

A. the draft Traffic Study that was commissioned showed the 'seagull' as the option that would meet the minimum standard requirements for the road intersection treatment. Council would like to further apply safety and effective intersection treatment options by proposing the feasibility of a roundabout.

Q. Can Kolodong Road be upgraded?

A. A service request has been raised to assess the condition of the road and complete remedial works on any safety or maintenance issues found.

Q. What development works are happening in the area?

A. Please visit our website www.midcoast.nsw.gov.au for any further information regarding development applications and the status.

General comments

- Potoroo Drive is particularly difficult to exit at all times of the day
- Would like the project to be inclusive of the Clifton Road intersection
 - o Drainage issues at the Clifton Road intersection
- Kolodong Road
 - o Some Kolodong residents would like a load limit sign and local traffic sign only
 - o Condition of Kolodong road is poor and requiring upgrading
 - o Concerns for the safety of school children and traffic altercations on the road
- Communications feedback
 - o Larger print for diverse readers
 - o Colour-blind awareness for future colour choices
- Roundabouts to be placed at each section on Wingham Road with dual lanes
- 60km speed zone rather than 70km
- Concern for development applications within the area.

Summary

Review of feedback in relation to the concept design indicates that overall the community in attendance are happy with the concept of the plans to upgrade Wingham Road. The community raised valuable questions and concerns for areas of design which will all be taken into consideration during the next stage of design. The engineering team as a result of the feedback has committed to completing a feasibility study for the provision of a roundabout in Potoroo Drive in addition to the already proposed roundabout at Hargreaves Drive. This information is provided to assist in making an informed decision when considering the final design.

What's next?

The engagement data contained in this report will be used to inform key staff and management on the outcomes of the consultation for the proposed rehabilitation works. This feedback will be considered, along with other factors including time frames, budget, funding agreements and intended purpose.

The feedback received will be used to inform the final design.

A copy of this report will be made publicly available on Council's website.