



DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

8th August 2006

DSS3 TRIAL BAY CREEK BRIDGE
FILE: 817 JM {Folio No. *}

SUMMARY:

Reporting on an offer provided by Civilbuild Pty Ltd to construct the new bridge over trial Bay Creek on the alignment of the existing bridge.



Tender No.817 was called for the construction of a new two lane concrete bridge over Trial Bay Creek. The new bridge will replace an old single lane timber bridge which is on a poor horizontal alignment. The tender for the supply of all labour, materials and onsite supervision to construct the new bridge was awarded to Civilbuild Pty Ltd with the summary of all costs reported at the Ordinary Meeting of the Kempsey Shire Council held on Tuesday 11th of April 2006. The summary of the project costs reported are itemised in Table 1 under Option 1.

Initially it was hoped that a new bridge could be constructed on the existing alignment. During the investigation stage for this project consideration was given to modifying the existing piers and headstocks to support the new structure. However it was considered that the existing structure was not structurally adequate to support the new bridge without extensive modification works and favour was given to constructing a new bridge on a new alignment which required the construction of approach road works. In the report of April 2006 it was noted that, in addition to the bridge construction, \$100,000 is proposed to be provided under the Roads to Recovery Program in 2006/07 for the approach roadworks.

After contracts were exchanged Civilbuild Pty Ltd submitted an offer to accelerate the programme in their successful tender in order to allow Council the opportunity to construct the bridge on the existing alignment, negating the need for extensive road works. However the acceptance of this proposal would force the temporary closure of Collombatti Road during the construction of the new bridge.

Three options are available to Council. These are:

- Option 1 – Construction on a new alignment (as reported at the Ordinary meeting of April 2006);
- Option 2 – Construction on existing alignment with no accelerated programme (additional bridge construction cost of \$10,000);
- Option 3 – Construction on existing alignment with accelerated programme (additional bridge construction costs of \$45,000).

The options are listed and estimated below in Table 1 and compared with Option 1 that was reported in April 2006.

Table 1 Estimates of Available Options to Council

| | Option 1 | Option 2 | Option 3 |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Construction Activity | | | |
| Preliminary design | \$18,550 | \$18,550 | \$18,550 |
| Detailed design/construction | \$299,950 | \$299,950 | \$299,950 |
| Variation on tender | Nil | \$10,000 | \$45,000 |
| Demolition | \$15,000 | \$15,000 | \$15,000 |
| Land Acquisition | \$6,500 | Nil | Nil |
| Road works (from R2R) | \$100,000 | \$21,500 | \$21,500 |
| Total | \$440,000 | \$369,500 | \$400,000 |
| <i>Weeks with road closed</i> | <i>Nil</i> | <i>10</i> | <i>5</i> |

An alternative access route is available via Collombatti Road and Chain O Ponds Road. Those residents living along Collombatti Road west of Collombatti Hall wishing to travel to Kempsey would not be noticeably inconvenienced. However for those residents east of Collombatti Hall and those in the Seven Hills Road area the road closure would result in a detour of up to an additional 13 kilometres for a trip into Kempsey.

Discussions have been held with Busways Pty Ltd, the operators of the school bus service, and they have indicated that alternative arrangements could be made for the transporting of school children.

Option 2, i.e. to build the bridge on the existing alignment with no accelerated programme would result in the road being closed for approximately 10 weeks. This option would result in a saving of approximately \$70,000. However with the road being closed for approximately 10 weeks, it is felt that the inconvenience to the community for this period of time would be too great.

Option 3, i.e. to build the bridge on the existing alignment with an accelerated construction programme would result in the road being closed for approximately 4 weeks. The work would be programmed to coincide with the October school holidays thus minimising the inconvenience to school students. This option would result in a saving of approximately \$40,000 and would negate the need for land acquisition, extensive roadworks and vegetation clearing. In view of the benefits of this option, it is felt that the community would be prepared to accept the inconvenience of a road closure for approximately 4 weeks particularly if the closure were to coincide with the school holiday period.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- ***Environmental***

Constructing the bridge on the existing alignment will result in minimal vegetation removal and will result only in minimal disturbance of the adjoining lowlands.

- ***Social***

Depending on the option adopted, Collombatti Road will be closed for up to ten weeks whilst the bridge works and road works are completed. However, bridge construction works will be carried out during the school holidays period so as to minimise inconvenience to the school bus service.

- ***Economic (Financial)***

There could be a net saving of \$70,500 or \$40,000 for the delivery of the whole project depending on the option adopted.

- ***Policy or Statutory***

Tenders have been assessed in accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. The proposal to construct the bridge on the new alignment has been considered after contracts were exchanged. The nature of the offer is to reallocate resources to enable Council to save on costs associated with major road realignment works, land acquisition, and the removal of vegetation. The design philosophy of the bridge offered at tender stage has not been altered in any way.

- ***Director's Review***

It is recommended that option 3 be adopted i.e. to construct a new bridge on the existing alignment with an accelerated construction programme. This option minimises the disruption and inconvenience to the local community but

still delivers a new two lane bridge with financial savings to Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1 That the variation submitted by Civilbuild, in the amount of \$45,000 (excl. GST), for constructing the Trial Bay Creek Bridge on the existing alignment with an accelerated programme be accepted
- 2 That consultation be undertaken with the local community on the basis that Collombatti Road will be closed for approximately 4 weeks.

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DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES