



KEMPSEY
Shire Council

DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

14th August 2007

DSS8 SUPP.	MUNGAY CREEK BRIDGE FILE: 680 KNS	{Folio No. *}
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SUMMARY:

This report details the need for urgent structural repairs to be undertaken on Mungay Creek Bridge.

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DESCRIPTION:

Council's Transportation Infrastructure Delivery Program provides for Mungay Creek Bridge to be upgraded and replaced in 2009-11. The structure is a single lane timber bridge located on Armidale Road east of Willawarrin.

During a routine inspection of the bridge on Tuesday 7th August 2007, one of the main girders was found to be badly split and requiring urgent replacement. A risk assessment determined that if traffic was slowed and therefore impact loads from heavy vehicles decreased, then there was no need to close the bridge or place a load limit on it. A temporary Speed Zone was installed immediately on the approaches to decrease the speed of vehicles.

It was imperative to immediately undertake repairs and so work commenced on Wednesday 8th August to build a side track and temporary bridge. Traffic was diverted off the bridge and onto the sidetrack following its completion on Friday 10th August. The detour is being controlled by traffic lights. Whilst the side track was being built, the girder was regularly inspected to reassess whether closure was required.

Repairs to the bridge will commence on Monday 13th August 2007. Whilst the bridge is closed to traffic other maintenance works to the bridge will be carried out. It is estimated that the cost of the repair work will be \$40,000 and that the repairs will take about two weeks. It is proposed that funding for this work be provided from savings and / or amendments within the Regional Road Block Grant Program.

Currently Council's highest priority for timber bridge replacement is the replacement of the bridge over Nulla Nulla Creek on the eastern approach to Bellbrook, followed by the replacement of Mungay Creek Bridge. The replacement of Nulla Nulla Creek Bridge is scheduled for 2007 - 2009, followed by Mungay Creek Bridge in 2009 - 2011.

In February 2007, Council submitted an application to the RTA for funding in 2007 / 2008 under the Timber Bridge Partnership Program for the replacement and upgrading of Mungay Creek Bridge. No advice has yet been received from the RTA regarding funding under this program. Council will continue to pursue the RTA regarding this program.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

- *Environmental*

A side track for this bridge has previously been formed and mainly minor vegetation regrowth was needed to be cleared. One large tree was removed to facilitate heavy vehicle movement across the side track bridge.

No works are proposed in the creek. A steel platform has been placed across the creek to act as a bridge and is supported beyond the banks.

- *Social*

Council has a responsibility to ensure the safety of the public.

- *Economic (Financial)*

The funding for the work will be sourced from within the RTA Regional Road Block Grant program from savings / amendments to other projects.

- *Policy or Statutory*

Nil

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council fund the urgent repair of Mungay Creek Bridge from within the RTA Regional Road Block Grant.

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A P Vermeulen
DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES