

PRINCES HIGHWAY UPGRADE: VICTORIA CREEK



CLIENT

NSW Roads and Maritime Services

LOCATION

Victoria Creek, New South Wales

TYPE OF CONTRACT

GC21

VALUE

\$ 23 million

CONSTRUCTION PERIOD

June 2011 - February 2013
19 months

OVERVIEW

This project comprised the realignment of the Princes Highway approximately 13km south of Narooma. The northern extent of works was approximately 600m north of the intersection of the Princes Highway and the old Princes Highway while the southern extent was an approximate distance of 1.5km south of the intersection between Corkhill Drive and the Princes Highway.

The narrow and winding nature of the existing alignment of the highway was considered inadequate for the assigned traffic speed of 80 km/h. Recommendations from the Rural Investigation Unit of the Department of Main Roads affirmed that a new alignment for the highway was required. Subsequently, the project was identified in the NSW State Infrastructure Strategy, with the following objectives: to achieve a 70 percent reduction in the crash rate; provide a continuous 100km/h speed environment meeting current road design standards; reduce delays and improve economic efficiency through improved alignment and overtaking opportunities; and provide a well-engineered, safe, aesthetically pleasing and environmentally acceptable road transport facility.

Environmental safeguards were established and implemented at both the design and construction phases of the project to reduce any potential hydrological impacts resulting from works within the vicinity of Victoria Creek. A comprehensive sediment and erosion plan was also prepared prior to construction, and all areas of disturbance were stabilised and revegetated using species native to the area.

PROJECT SCOPE

- Approximately 3.2 kilometres of new carriage way with a general arrangement of one south bound and one north bound lane; and one overtaking lane in each direction
- Construction of new intersections with the existing highway alignment
- Construction of a new 3-span semi integral spaced plank bridge over Victoria Creek and decommissioning of the old bridge
- Realignment of a watercourse which is a tributary of Victoria Creek
- Traffic control and management
- Environmental management including temporary erosion and sedimentation control
- Major earthworks, including topsoil removal, subgrade preparation, drilling and blasting, construction of embankments over soft ground, removal and replacement of unsuitable material, importing of materials and construction of selected material zone and verge zones
- Construction and installation of kerbs and/ or gutters, stormwater drainage items and subsurface drainage
- Construction of large box culverts
- Application of sprayed bituminous seals
- Installation of road furnishing, pavement marking, raised pavement markers, signposting, and traffic barriers including temporary arrangements during construction
- Design and construction of a private property underpass and provision of new access points for local residents

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Project was completed approximately six months ahead of schedule and has enhanced existing highway conditions, improved traffic flow and has made the corridor a much safer route for motorists

