

MUSWELLBROOK BRIDGES REPLACEMENT

OUTSIDE OF NORMAL HOURS CONSTRUCTION WORK AND TRAFFIC CHANGES COMMUNITY NOTICE

November 2021



ARTC

6:30am Monday 22 November to 8:30pm Friday 26 November

Please note: construction will continue during standard construction hours outside of this period

The Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) is replacing three rail bridges, being the Hunter River Bridge, Muscle Creek Bridge and Bridge Street Bridge over the New England Highway, with new bridges within and next to the rail corridor, in Muswellbrook, NSW. Work commenced onsite in June 2020 and we expect the project to be completed in 2022.

What are we doing in November?

We will work both **day and night** during the planned works period to reduce the length of disruption to the community and the rail network.

During the November planned works period we will be removing the existing Bridge Street bridge and installing the new bridge. This is a major milestone for the project and brings us one major step closer to completion.

Works will also continue near Muscle Creek and Hunter River, pouring and launching concrete bridge segments.

COVID-19

The freight and transport industry has been identified as an essential service by the state and federal governments. These works are critical to keep trains and the supply chain moving. The safety of our staff and communities impacted by this essential maintenance work is our number one priority. We have implemented strict hygiene protocols, as set out by the relevant authorities. All staff will practice social distancing and minimise interactions with the local community. As such, in instances where we would otherwise door knock to inform near neighbours of upcoming works, we will letterbox drop these information flyers instead.

What you can expect

The work will involve different types of equipment which will generate noise. At times, the work may be loud and possibly disruptive, particularly during the night. We will be implementing measures to minimise noise across the site during the work.

Lighting towers will be used to continue the works safely at night and will be faced away from residences.

Road and pedestrian traffic changes will include:

- full closure of Bridge Street **between 7am Monday and 6am Thursday**
- single lane southbound road closure on Bridge Street underneath the rail bridges **from 6am Thursday to 6am Friday**

The full closure will be implemented for the installation of the new bridge and removal of the center pier. During the full closure both northbound and southbound traffic will be diverted via Bell St and Market Street. Pedestrians will still be able to walk under the bridges, however there will be periods where we will need to stop pedestrians for up to 15 minutes while we are lifting and positioning the new bridge.

During the single lane closure all southbound traffic will be detoured via Bell Street and Market Street. Northbound traffic will continue to use Bridge Street.

Traffic controls will be in place to manage traffic for both closures. Minor delays may be experienced under both closures.



Normal construction hours and upcoming work

Our normal construction hours will continue from Saturday 27 November.

What else are we doing?

In addition to this project work, ARTC will also be undertaking other maintenance works across the Hunter Valley network during the November planned works period. The maintenance work we do helps to minimise disruptions to passenger services and maintain a safe and reliable rail network.

If you would like more detailed information about our maintenance and improvement work please contact our Enviroline or visit www.artc.com.au/community/track-work

The information provided is correct at the time of publishing but is subject to change due to unplanned or unexpected events such as operational changes or heavy rain.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

ARTC is committed to working with landowners, communities, state and local governments as a vital part of our planning and consultation work, and we value your input. If you have any questions or comments, please let us know.

1300 550 402 (24 hours)
enviroline@artc.com.au

Further project updates can also be found on the ARTC Website via
<https://www.artc.com.au/community/environment/muswellbrook-bridge-replacement-project/>

artc.com.au

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