

Submission
No 2

INQUIRY INTO PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADES: COFFS HARBOUR

Organisation:

Name: Mr & Mrs Mark & Lynne Beiers

Telephone:

Date Received: 31/10/2005

Subject:

Summary

Rec 31/10/05

Mark & Lynne Beiers

27th October 2005

The Director
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4
Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Re: Coffs Harbour Bypass Proposal

We read yesterday in the Coffs Coast Advocate that you are interested in community submissions regarding the proposed upgrade of the Pacific Highway in this area.

Last year the RTA presented our community with three proposed bypass options and, after purportedly taking into account community considerations, narrowed this down to the existing "inner corridor" option. The main consideration, by their own admission in their report, was cost consideration.

Our city is already divided by the natural boundary of Coffs Creek and the man made boundary of the existing highway. This proposed bypass, so close and in fact within the inner city itself, will only divide and inhibit further growth and will be extremely detrimental to residents in regard to safety of local traffic, reflected noise and pollution problems.


The community and the council have overwhelmingly rejected this proposal already. Is the input of the community to be ignored when many insurmountable concerns and problems outlined by them still exist? The route is NOT a bypass but an urban ring road, which further severs these communities and subdivisions recently approved, and under construction. The RTA's preference of IN1, IN2, IS1 and IS2 reroutes all the pollution and noise back over the natural amphitheatre of Coffs Harbour. There is NO doubt that this route will be flawed in all its outcomes in the short-term future and will need to be corrected- with further public funds!!!!

In the RTA's own Community update 4 it admits that up to 60 ha of banana land will be removed with their preferred options. This threatens to decimate the remaining banana industry with all the associated repercussions on the economic future of Coffs Harbour.

We request the RTA and the DIPNR to adopt the Coffs Harbour City Council's preferred corridor – the modified Coastal Ridgeway. After extensive community and expert consultation this was agreed to be the best option for our own residents as well as Australian highway users now, and for the future. Many residents' lives, and their children's, will be affected by the outcome of this decision.

We look forward to your reply.

Yours faithfully


Mark and Lynne Beiers

