

Media Release

19 June 2025

Council Begins Urgent Repairs to Low-Level Bridge, Renews Call for Second Highway Crossing

Cowra Shire Council has engaged Timber Restoration Services to undertake essential repairs on the Low-Level Bridge, with works estimated at \$462,000. The project is expected to take approximately six weeks, beginning on Wednesday 25th June, during which time the bridge will be completely closed to traffic. Council acknowledges the inconvenience this may cause and is asking for the community's patience and understanding during the closure.

Mayor Cr Paul Smith said the repair work reflects Council's ongoing commitment to maintaining essential local infrastructure while also reinforcing the need for a long-term transport solution for the region.

"The Low-Level Bridge plays a vital role in connecting our community and supporting local transport needs. These repairs are essential to ensure the structure remains safe and functional," Mayor Smith said. "We fully understand the impact this closure may have, and we appreciate the community's patience as we carry out this critical work."

The repair schedule has been carefully coordinated with WaterNSW, operator of Wyangala Dam, to align with periods of lower river levels and avoid potential conflicts with water releases.

Importantly, Mayor Smith noted that the challenges posed by this temporary closure reinforce a broader issue the increasing need for a second, high-level highway bridge in Cowra.

"This project highlights a bigger picture. Traffic congestion during this repair work only strengthens the case for a second elevated crossing," said Cr Smith. "Council is strongly advocating for a new high-level bridge downstream of the existing one to be included in the NSW Government's upcoming regional transport plan."

"This would be a state-owned and constructed bridge, but it is essential infrastructure for Cowra's long-term connectivity, resilience and economic growth. We urge Transport for NSW to prioritise it in their future planning," he added.

Council will keep the community informed throughout the duration of the works and encourages motorists to follow detour signage and plan ahead where possible.

For more information, please contact Cowra Council on (02) 6340 2000 or visit www.cowracouncil.com.au.

Ends.