

Currumbin Creek Active Transport Bridge

Planning



Artist's impression: Aerial view looking north from Currumbin over Currumbin Creek at existing Currumbin Creek Estuary Bridge/Gold Coast Highway (left) and proposed Active Transport Bridge (right). Subject to change.

Planning has begun on the proposed Currumbin Creek Active Transport Bridge between Palm Beach and Currumbin.

Summary

The Queensland Government has committed \$1.5 million for planning for a new and improved Oceanway active transport connection between Palm Beach and Currumbin over Currumbin Creek.

The proposed Currumbin Creek Active Transport Bridge would run east of and separate to the existing Currumbin Creek Estuary Bridge which forms part of the Gold Coast Highway between Palm Beach and Currumbin.

Active transport users currently use a narrow, steep footpath on the existing Currumbin Creek Estuary Bridge with no place to stop, rest and enjoy the view. The current path is also close to traffic on the Gold Coast Highway making it difficult for those using mobility devices, like wheelchairs and prams, to access the footpath safely and conveniently.

This project is planning for a separated, dedicated and wider shared active transport path across Currumbin Creek, providing all users with a safer and more comfortable journey.

The proposed Currumbin Creek Active Transport Bridge and path will be around five metres wide and 450 metres in length, including new connections to Duringan Street and the Gold Coast Highway. It will also be less steep than the existing bridge.

Providing a wider, separate and less steep pathway will greatly improve accessibility, safety and convenience for all users. The proposed new bridge and pathway has the potential to connect to the Currumbin Creek foreshore area and walking tracks, and offers opportunities to provide viewing and rest areas, potentially with shading.

Background

The proposed project is part of the Gold Coast Oceanway; a 36-kilometre network of active transport paths along or near the coast between Main Beach and Coolangatta. The Oceanway is designed to make walking and bike riding more attractive as alternatives to driving.

Between the Gold Coast suburbs of Palm Beach and Currumbin, the existing Oceanway crosses Currumbin Creek via a narrow footpath on the existing Currumbin Creek Estuary Bridge which is part of the Gold Coast Highway.

In 2020, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) completed a multi-modal corridor study for the Gold Coast Highway between Burleigh Heads and Tugun which recommended provision of a new, separated active transport bridge east of the existing Currumbin Creek Estuary Bridge of the Gold Coast Highway.





Artist's impression: Looking south from Palm Beach at the proposed Active Transport Bridge crossing Currumbin Creek to Currumbin. Opportunities to provide viewing and rest areas (potentially with shading).

Project funding

The Queensland Government has committed \$1.5 million to undertake business case planning for the proposed Currumbin Bridge Active Transport Bridge*.

Any further detailed planning or construction would be subject to future funding approval.

*Gold Coast Highway (Broadbeach to Coolangatta) Currumbin Creek Cycleway, planning project—known publicly as the Currumbin Creek Active Transport Bridge.

Project timeline and options assessment

2020

TMR completed a multi-modal corridor study for the Gold Coast Highway between Burleigh Heads and Tugun which recommended a new, separated active transport bridge east of the existing Currumbin Creek Estuary Bridge of the Gold Coast Highway.

2022

TMR started initial planning in March 2022 by looking at various technical design options for the proposed project. Firstly, this involved investigating opportunities and constraints associated with each design element including what users needed out of the bridge, where the bridge was located, how high the bridge was, and what materials the bridge could be constructed of. Secondly, three potential options were shortlisted (as shown in the diagrams) based on an assessment. These were assessed against the following criteria—safety, efficiency, accessibility, cost, risk, and community, stakeholder and environmental impacts. All options had to be designed at the height of the existing Currumbin Creek Estuary Bridge in order to meet navigational height clearance requirements.

2023

TMR will conduct community consultation to understand what is important to the local community. This information will inform the business case for the project which is due by the end of July 2023.

Please note that no funding is approved past this initial planning stage.

1

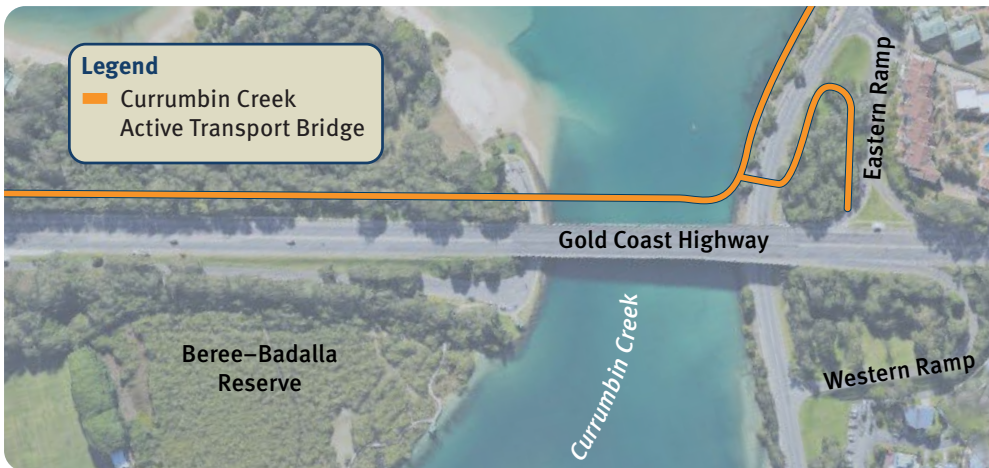
Option 1—using the existing bridge, reallocate the space on the bridge deck to provide a wider path and separated bicycle path, while maintaining four traffic lanes. This was ruled out largely due to construction difficulties while keeping the road open and potential accessibility concerns being close to traffic.



2

Option 2—an active transport bridge and path east of the existing bridge, separated from the existing bridge but running closely adjacent to it.

This is the current TMR-preferred option, however could be subject to change following community engagement and further internal planning.



3

Option 3—an active transport bridge and path east of the existing bridge, separated from the existing bridge and running further away from it. Though this option better aligned with the Oceanway, it was ruled out largely due to greater visual and environmental impacts.



Option 2 is currently preferred by TMR as it is the safest option, providing the best route amenity and enjoyment, offered on the same alignment as the existing bridge to maintain the existing navigational channel, and has less environmental and visual impact than Option 3.



Artist's impression: Facing west down Duringan Street, Currumbin, looking towards proposed Currumbin Creek Active Transport Bridge.

Project timeline



Subject to change

Please note that all information and images featured are for planning and early consultation purposes and are therefore subject to change as feedback is received and the planning process evolves.

Get involved and have your say

TMR would like to hear your views and find out what is important to you. You are invited to participate in community consultation to find out more about planning for the Currumbin Creek Active Transport Bridge and provide your feedback.

Provide your feedback online



Visit the interactive community consultation website (look for the 'Have your say' link) to find out more about the project and provide your feedback. The project's web page features ways to have your say, useful information and related materials, such as a fly-through video and artist's impressions.

Visit: www.tmr.qld.gov.au, and search Currumbin Creek Active Transport Bridge to have your say.

Talk to us in person



The project team will be holding community drop-in sessions in March 2023 to enable you to ask questions and provide face-to-face feedback on Currumbin Creek Active Transport Bridge planning. Visit the website to find out drop-in session dates, times and locations for community consultation on the Currumbin Creek Active Transport Bridge planning project.

Visit: www.tmr.qld.gov.au, and search Currumbin Creek Active Transport Bridge to find out more.

Contact us

If you would like further information on the Currumbin Creek Active Transport Bridge planning project or to register for updates, please contact the project team:

Phone: 1800 316 365* 8.30am – 4.30pm Monday to Friday
Email: ccatb@tmr.qld.gov.au

*Check with your service provider for call costs.

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