

SCC responds to Doonan Bridge Rd residents

SUNSHINE Coast Council has responded to Doonan Bridge Road residents concerned about the safety of a road upgrade works, saying it's "made every effort" to achieve "a balanced and safe outcome".

Council said it has held multiple meetings with residents regarding design options, commissioning peer reviews and a road safety audit by independent and accredited road engineering consultants.

The response follows concerns from the residents that a widening project would narrow the roadside verge creating safety problems for residents alighting from their driveways, the culverts and road-side drains are potentially dangerous, realigned drains have caused flooding fears, the guardrails

have caused crash concerns and also reportedly have already trapped wildlife trying to travel through vegetation corridors.

"While project delays have occurred undertaking these reviews, changes considered safe and appropriate by both independent and council engineers and designers have been made to alter design elements as requested by Verrierdale residents," local councillor Stephen Robinson said.

"These changes include minimising the depth of a drain designed to help alleviate nearby property flooding. Additional features such as safety guidance signage will also be added to help alleviate residents' concerns.

"The sealed road will be constructed along the current

gravel road alignment, taking into consideration motorist safety, consistency in the road's speed environment, engineering specifications and signage, stormwater management, minimising property acquisitions and service relocations and ensuring there is no impact on cultural heritage sites.

"It is important to note that council does not arbitrarily set the speed limit on roads.

This is determined by a Speed Advisory Committee, which includes QPS, TMR and other stakeholders. However, council has advised residents their preferred speed of 70km/h will be referred to this committee for consideration.

"Constructing these important projects is always a challenge with constrained



Doonan Bridge Road widening works. Photo: Richard Bruinsma

budgets and competing regional priorities, however

council remains committed to delivering these upgrades

consistently across the region's road network."