

Princes Highway Upgrade. Foxground to Berry.

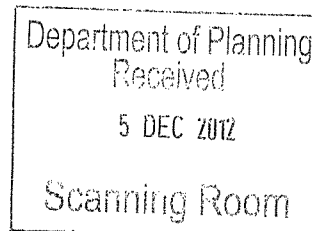


Noise affecting the community.

No one really knows how intrusive the new motorway noise will be until it is operational. However, there is evidence to suggest that ordinary everyday living will be disrupted.

Residents have found that noise penetrating into a property will make reading, relaxing, concentrating and studying very difficult. Outdoor activities like gardening or just sitting outside will no longer be something pleasant to do. Ref. Traffic Noise in Rural Areas. This intrusion will not only affect the surrounding areas but far beyond.

In Australia, being outdoors is a way of life and noise could completely ruin that pleasure for communities alongside the proposed motorway!



Window Treatments ( Double or triple glazing ) will help to reduce noise for affected properties. However this treatment will not be suitable when windows need to be open especially at night. Allowing noise to filter inside.

Air conditioning is a costly option!

Houses need to be aired from time to time to prevent mould and to keep them fresh and healthy. Therefore windows need to be opened.

The sports grounds on North St. are both Active and Passive recreational areas. Active in people playing noisy sports, however, tennis needs an element of quietness in order for the rules to be heard and for the game to be played properly. Passive in eating a picnic, walking dogs, watching cricket or just sitting talking. Therefore we believe that the sports ground will need noise mitigation especially because the grounds are only a short distance from the bridge on Woodhill Mountain Rd. and the Northern interchange.

There is evidence that noisy motorway areas will detract the public from using these facilities, putting them under risk of abandonment

plus open to crime and vandalism. Ref. Traffic Noise in Rural Areas.

North St. and Kangaroo Valley Rd. are very popular walking and exercise areas and are pleasant for this purpose at present. Although the R.M.S will provide walking tracks, these tracks will be in very close vicinity to the motorway. Not pleasant because of noise and pollution which will stop the public using them. Ref. Traffic Noise in Rural Areas.

The proposed walkway alongside the motorway will attract cyclists and skateboarders who will bring their own volume adding to the motorway noise.

We can presently hear cyclists talking as they ride along North St. Skate boarding would be very noisy especially if the walkway is used as a route to the Skate Park along North Street.

Berry enjoys many visitors at present so it is extremely important that it remains a pleasant place to be, and to enjoy, and that noise from the northern area doesn't ruin what people love about Berry. The trade off, getting heavy trucks out of Queen St. does not justify creating even more noise and pollution in other areas of Berry.

### Health.

There have been numerous studies written on the affects on health by living close to motorways. Young children are especially at risk. Ref. World Health Organization.

There is a family living on the corner of North and Albany Street Berry. They have three very young children. At present these children are all under seven years with the youngest being two years. Their playground in their front garden overlooks the present farmland. This family does not have a rear garden, therefore the children will be at risk from noise and pollution.

There is evidence that any hearing problems or health problems one might have are accentuated by motorway noise.

Many health issues both physical and mental are brought about by sleep deprivation resulting from motorway noise.

Ref. Traffic Noise in Rural Areas.

### Economic Issues.

The proposed motorway in Berry has had an enormous affect on real estate values. House prices in Berry are generally lower nearer the new proposed motorway route! There is evidence that prices will drop even further when the motorway is operational. This will be due to the increase in traffic over the years therefore noise will become worse.

Ref. Traffic Noise in Rural Areas.

Properties near to a motorway take much longer to sell and sell at a much lower price than expected.

We are experiencing this with our own property at present.\*

### Construction Traffic Noise.

There is no doubt that construction and construction traffic will be most intrusive and a very frustrating and dangerous time for all residents and visitors.

Mufflers and Silencers to be fitted to all necessary construction equipment.

Ref. R.T. A. Environmental Noise Management Manual.

We do not want any added noise pollution on the construction sites i.e. Radios or C.D. players "at any time".

The R.M.S. must identify all routes that construction traffic will be using to get to and fro the construction sites.

We sincerely hope that the R.M.S. will not underestimate just how much the public needs to be reassurance over this project especially during construction. The comments “ Reasonable” and “Feasible” have only added to confusion.

### Further Issues.

Are the Dilapidation Surveys to be taken place or not?

Sun Strike, especially in winter along North St. is horrendous and very dangerous. What can be done to prevent accidents along the new bypass.

What emergency measures have the R.M.S. in place in the event of a major fuel accident along the length of the upgrade?

The R.M.S have told us that they will monitor the noise levels on the new Berry Bypass, but if the noise levels exceed the criteria then it would be very unlikely that anything could be done. That isn't good enough!

We need EVERGREEN tree and shrub landscaping along the motorway route PLANTED NOW!!!

Who is going to maintain the green buffer alongside North Street?

That task should not fall upon residents.

Who will own that land?

Where are the construction workers private vehicles going to be parked?

Berry is already struggling for parking spots!

Adrian & Pauline Bott.

118, North St.

The proposed Berry bypass will divide the town and take away the lifestyle that the residents of Berry presently enjoy. Our whole environment will change completely.

North St, Kangaroo Valley Rd and Woodhill Mountain Rd. are the most peaceful and picturesque roads in Berry.

Kangaroo Valley Rd. and Woodhill Mountain Rd. are tourist routes leading visitors into the escarpment and the beautiful rainforests.

Visitors that come to Berry choose North St. to take photographs of the magnificent escarpment, or sit and eat a picnic, or paint, or just talk to the many horses that graze in the paddocks. Who will want to do those things with a noisy, filthy motorway just meters away?

Affected residents are expected to put up with noise and pollution and see the value of their properties plummet with no compensation what so ever. In a first world economy, like Australia, that is disgusting!

The residents of North St and Berry as a whole, do not want to see the proposed alignment for the berry bypass moved back onto the front of North St.

The noise wall, although important, will take away our light. It will also stop our view of the open paddocks and escarpment.

Landscaping alongside the motorway is also important for screening and noise but it will also take our light.

Therefore these mitigation measures are a 'Trade off' A phrase the R.M.S. love to use. Which isn't good enough!

We should not have to trade our human rights.

The walkway along North St. will bring added litter from the skateboarders and take away our privacy.

North St. residents do not want to see any of the green buffer used as a car park or coach park. It will create even more noise and pollution.

How will the R.M.S. protect North St. residents when using 'Daylights' during construction at night?

How will the R.M.S protect North St. residents from car headlights shining into bedroom windows at night when motorists are traveling down from the Woodhill Mountain Rd. bridge and coming around the curve along the Berry bypass?

If this bypass cannot be built other than North Berry, then it's residents of North St. would like to see the present alignment moved as far North as possible away from it's present position. We want the R.M.S. to purchase Mr. Miller's land and farmhouse. We truly believe that the Miller family will find life impossible to continue working and living on the land with the motorway so close to them. This action would at the least help some of the North St. residents. Mr. Miller would get a fair price for his land and would be able to move on with his life. Unlike the residents that are left to suffer it.

There are many residents of Berry and beyond that are bitterly disappointed that the government saw fit to disregard a route to the South of the town as too costly. A southern route is still the better option for the whole of Berry. The amount of affected properties and disruption to Berry would have been far less than that is proposed for the present bypass.

Health issues are going to be a great concern for residents living alongside this proposed motorway. Who is going to pay costly health bills when residents get sick because of the pollution and noise. Why should we have this worry when we have, at present, no such fears?

The R.M.S are totally unjustified in building this bypass North of Berry when there are other perfectly suitable options.

The R.M.S. will build the bypass not just for today, for future generations. If this proposed bypass is wrong, everyone

would suffer, and it would become an extremely costly mistake for generations to come.

Adrian & Pauline Bott.

118, North St.

Berry.