

Funding sought for Powneys Road Bridge

Council will apply for \$213,000 funding for the Powneys Road Bridge Reconstruction Project through the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR) Local Roads to Market Program.

If successful, Council will then allocate \$107,000 from its own 2017/18 Bridge Rehabilitation budget towards the bridge's reconstruction.

The objective of the Local Roads to Market Program is to improve the efficiency and competitiveness of the agriculture sector.

Manager Engineering and Assets, John Moylan, said Powneys Road in Tarwin Lower was a Council controlled Access Place and that Powneys Bridge was an integral part of it.

"Powneys Road is a gravel road used by residents, cattle trucks, large dairy and beef farmers, tourists, emergency vehicles and is essential for providing access to the abutting properties and delivery of goods and services," he explained.

The existing timber and steel bridge, built as a temporary structure in 1984, is 9m in length and almost 4m wide. A recent inspection found that environmental exposure of the structural steel members had caused severe corrosion.

The proposed works are:

- Replace the existing steel and timber bridge with a new 4.8m width precast concrete bridge
- Provide new steel barrier railings
- Provide approach guardrails
- Rock beaching at both abutments
- Raise both approaches by 500mm and prepare road pavement with crushed rock
- Provide 35mm asphalt overlay to the bridge deck and road approaches

If Council's funding application is successful, works on the bridge could begin in the second half of next year.

PR1951 5/12/16