

Environment and heritage

Both State Road Authorities have already undertaken detailed assessments into the effect of the project on the local environment, with environmental management plans and audits to be put into place during construction.

The detailed environment management plans will incorporate an extensive range of mitigation measures, safeguards and specific plans for environmental issues such as heritage, noise, air and water quality.

The freeway route has been adjusted in order to preserve the heritage-listed Cambourne House in Wodonga.



Cambourne House in Wodonga will be preserved

Community Involvement

Local communities will be provided with relevant and timely information before and during construction.

Community involvement will be supported through the establishment of Community Liaison Groups (CLGs) in Albury and Wodonga, ongoing advertising of construction activities and temporary traffic arrangements, project websites and a display centre.

The CLGs will comprise a range of key stakeholders and will be formed to provide an opportunity for community feedback on construction issues and input into urban design of major features, such as pedestrian bridges, noise walls and landscaping.

For further information, please contact:

Roads and Traffic Authority - NSW

- toll-free information line on 1800 674 934 (24 hour)
- email: albury_project_office@rta.nsw.gov.au
- or visit the RTA website at www.rta.nsw.gov.au/albury

VicRoads, Victoria

- toll-free information line on 1800 224 300 (24 hour)
- email: alburywodonga@roads.vic.gov.au
- or visit VicRoads website at www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/alburywodonga

The Albury Wodonga Hume Freeway Project is funded under the Australian Government's Auslink National Transport Plan and is being managed by the New South Wales and Victorian Governments via their road agencies, RTA and VicRoads.

information bulletin

Albury Wodonga Hume Freeway Project

March 2005



Front Cover: Artist impression of new bridges over Murray River

Albury Wodonga Hume Freeway Project



The objective of the Albury Wodonga Hume Freeway Project is to strengthen the major transport link connecting Australia's two major cities of Sydney and Melbourne and to improve safety and travel conditions for the people of Albury and Wodonga.

The \$524 million project is funded by the Australian Government and includes the \$12 million Bandiana Link which is jointly funded by the Victorian and Australian Governments.

Abigroup Contractors Pty Ltd was the successful contractor for both the \$251 million New South Wales contract and the \$100 million Victorian contract.

The Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) and VicRoads are working in close co-ordination to ensure the new section of the Hume Freeway is opened as a single project by mid-2007.

Project overview

The new 17.4km route will link the Hume Freeway at Wodonga in Victoria with the Hume Highway at Ettamogah in NSW. The four-lane facility will be of freeway standard, providing overpasses at intersecting roads and access to surrounding areas via entry and exit ramps at key locations.

A second crossing of the Murray River between Albury and Wodonga will be created, along with a 3.7km road link to Bandiana, connecting the Murray Valley Highway, south-east of Wodonga with the Hume Freeway.



'Rollover corner' in Albury will be bypassed

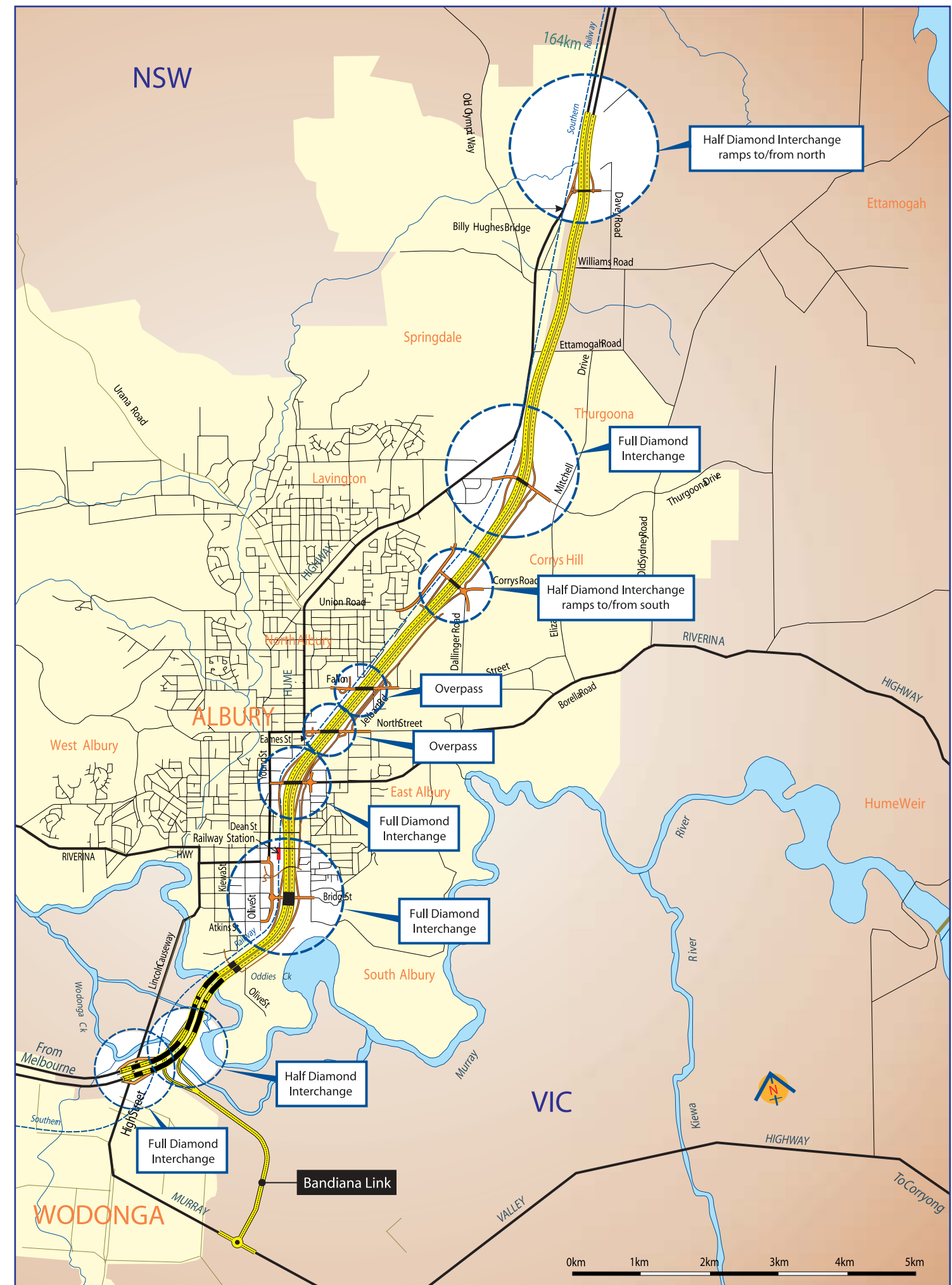
Main features of the new freeway include:

- Full diamond interchanges at Thurgoona Drive, Borella Road, Bridge Street and High Street (allowing entry and exit from both directions).
- Half diamond interchanges at Billy Hughes Bridge, Corrys Hill and Bandiana Link (allowing exit and entry from only one direction).
- Bridges at both Fallon and North Streets over the Sydney-Melbourne Railway line and the freeway.
- Bridges over the Murray River, Flanagans Creek, Wodonga Creek, Oddies Creek and the Railway line.
- Pedestrian bridges at Dean Street, Albury Railway Station and Amatex Street and shared pedestrian/cycle paths along much of the route.
- Extensive urban design features and landscaping along the freeway, including new parks in East Albury and South Albury.

Project benefits

- Improved travel conditions and level of road safety for local and through-traffic.
- Reduced congestion and travel times between Albury and Wodonga (35,000 vehicles per day will be removed from Lincoln Causeway).
- Elimination of six railway level crossings on roads adjacent to the new highway.
- Bypassing of 17 sets of traffic lights and 5 right-angled bends (such as "rollover corner").
- Better access between Albury and Wodonga and surrounding areas.
- Removal of heavy vehicles from residential streets in South Albury.

The Bandiana Link will be constructed initially to connect Bandiana to and from Albury, easing congestion in High Street and removing through-traffic from the Wodonga CBD and adjacent residential areas. Ultimately, provision will be made for the movement of traffic between Bandiana and the Hume Freeway west of High Street but only after the Wodonga Rail Bypass is constructed and the existing Railway line removed. Construction of this connection is not included in the current Hume Freeway upgrade.



Albury Wodonga Hume Freeway Project – New Freeway Route