Youngs Crossing Road at Joyner is an important north-south arterial road connecting the Moreton Bay Region with Brisbane City.

The road is used by approximately 20,000 vehicles every day, and traffic is forecast to increase to 22,500 vehicles by 2026 and 27,500 vehicles by 2036.

Moreton Bay Regional Council has been progressively upgrading sections of Youngs Crossing Road to four lanes to cater for this growth.

Council is now undertaking preliminary planning and design work to upgrade the road where it crosses the North Pine River at Youngs Crossing.

Youngs Crossing has low flood immunity and since 2010 has closed an average of 4.5 days a year following rain events and water releases from North Pine Dam, causing delays, congestion on local roads and economic impacts.

The upgrade will involve constructing a new bridge and associated road works to provide up to 10 metres of clearance above the current crossing.

Council has developed concept designs for two proposed upgrade options, based on flood modelling and environmental considerations, and is now seeking community feedback on these options.

**Option 1 Youngs Crossing Road existing alignment**

This option involves constructing a new four-lane bridge and associated road works (approximately 940m in length including a 160m bridge) that generally follows the existing alignment of Youngs Crossing Road.

This route will also involve construction of a four-lane signalised intersection where Youngs Crossing Road connects with Dayboro Road.

In this option, state-controlled Dayboro Road would require an upgrade in the future which is currently not funded.

**Option 2 Andrew Petrie Drive alignment**

This option involves constructing a new four-lane bridge and associated road works (approximately 1340m in length including a 180m bridge) to link Youngs Crossing Road to Andrew Petrie Drive.

This alignment follows the existing preserved road reserve corridor along Andrew Petrie Drive and will connect through traffic to the Dayboro Road/ Beeville Road roundabout. This option features two sets of council-controlled traffic signals along Andrew Petrie Drive.

Council is seeking feedback on the proposed upgrade options. Public consultation closes 2 October 2020.

- 1800 565 930 (8.30pm to 5pm, Mon–Fri)
- youngscrossing@moretonbay.qld.gov.au

**Project benefits**

- ensure flood immunity during heavy rain events and water releases from North Pine Dam and Sideling Creek
- increase road capacity
- improve road safety
- reduce traffic delays and congestion
- provide shared paths and dedicated on-road bicycle lanes.

This upgrade project is being funded by Moreton Bay Regional Council with a $7.75 million contribution by the Australian Government.
Option 1
Youngs Crossing Road existing alignment

Benefits
✓ Minimal change to the existing route
✓ Shorter bridge span
✓ Youngs Crossing Road/Protheroe Road intersection improvements

Key features
✓ Elevated bridge that will provide Q100 flood immunity
✓ State-controlled Dayboro Road would require an upgrade in the future

Option 2
Andrew Petrie Drive alignment

Benefits
✓ Reduced travel time by 20-30 seconds
✓ Faster access south to Joyner, Bray Park, Lawnton and surrounds for Petrie on Pine
✓ Reduced impact on vegetation
✓ Additional Petrie on Pine estate access point for emergency vehicles

Key features
✓ Elevated bridge that will provide Q100 flood immunity
✓ Does not require a future upgrade to Dayboro Road
West Petrie Bypass (Option G)

Council had previously proposed a new road link called the West Petrie Bypass which would span two kilometres from Protheroe Road, Joyner to Torrens Road, Kurwongbah, to address the Youngs Crossing Road flooding issue and longer-term traffic needs.

This option has not progressed due to its relatively high cost, lack of funding commitment and community concerns about environmental impacts, including to koala bushland. Council is now only considering the two new options.

Seeking flood immunity

Youngs Crossing is highly vulnerable to water releases from North Pine Dam. It currently has a flood immunity of Q1, meaning the road is closed due to flooding at least once a year. During significant rain events, the crossing can be closed for periods of up to four days with road closures occurring quickly and with little warning.

Every closure comes at a significant cost to the local economy as thousands of vehicles are re-routed along alternative roads, causing traffic congestion, delays and sometimes gridlock on parallel north-south road corridors.

The new options have a Q100 flood immunity, meaning there is only a one per cent chance of flooding in any given year.

Project considerations

Both route options have benefits and impacts. These include environmental, noise, traffic volume, community amenity and traffic access considerations. The local community and road users are encouraged to consider these throughout the consultation period.

Council is working to reduce the following impacts regardless of the chosen option:

- The final route alignment will seek to mitigate potential impacts to remnant vegetation in collaboration with specialist environmental consultants.
- Noise and amenity impacts will be mitigated by using sound barriers, community-friendly lighting and additional screening, including vegetation.

What happens next?

Council will make a decision on the preferred route based on the outcomes of the community engagement process and other factors such as cost, environment and technical considerations.

The project will then progress to the detailed design phase where factors such as bridge capacity, road formation and embankments, visual amenity, noise, environment and construction impacts will be considered.

Council will continue to engage with the local community throughout this next phase to work through concerns and share the latest information and designs.