Bundaberg flood protection study
Developing a 10-year action plan for flood mitigation in Bundaberg.

Option H – Improving Emergency Access to Tallon Bridge
Option H involves improving emergency access to Tallon Bridge by creating an extension to the bridge from Gavin Street through to the roundabout near Bundaberg North Primary School.

Stage 2 of the Bundaberg flood protection study involves assessing 11 flood mitigation options, including those identified through consultation with the Bundaberg community in late 2015. The following provides an overview of the assessment of Option H.

Viability
A key step in the options assessment involves identifying issues that may mean construction or implementation of the option is not viable. These relate to matters such as:
- The likelihood of obtaining environmental approvals, due to unacceptable environmental impacts
- Significant or unaffordable costs of construction or ongoing maintenance
- Potential for unacceptable impacts on other areas.
An option is considered to be unviable where the assessment identifies one or more of these matters are ‘unlikely to be achieved’.
The assessment of Option H found that this option will be viable. Environmental approval is likely due to the works being undertaken mainly in road reserves. The adoption of a viaduct to provide the access minimises the likelihood of impacts outside of the benefited area. Whilst the option has been identified as affordable it is difficult to quantify the benefits.

Costs and benefits
Initial estimates indicate that the construction and maintenance of this option would cost approximately $42 million.
Although there is no reduction in flood damages, approximately 1400 properties would no longer be isolated in a 1% AEP flood event. In addition, the available evacuation times for Bundaberg North would increase by about four hours.

Summary of assessment against key criteria
- This option would enable 1400 properties in Bundaberg North to have emergency access to Bundaberg South during a 1% AEP flood event.
- It would assist in reducing impacts on people as isolation is reduced and access to emergency services is increased.
- It would also decrease stress due to reduced isolation and improved access to emergency services during flood events.
- This option has limited benefits in very large events (e.g. larger than 2013).
- This option would have limited benefit for those properties to the east of Hinkler Drive or south of Hinkler Park.
- Afflux from the viaduct has not been assessed and would need to be considered in future design development.
- The costs for this option would be more than 10 times the estimated monetary benefits. It is difficult to quantify the benefits of this option as they are improvements to access and not reduced flood damages.

Likelihood of obtaining environmental approval
- Likely to achieve
Affordability
- Likely to achieve
Tolerable impacts outside benefited area
- Likely to achieve

1% AEP flood is the name given to a flood event which has a 1 in 100 or 1% chance of occurring in any year. It would be similar to the January 2013 flood.
Option overview

Option H aims to enhance emergency access to Tallon Bridge by creating an extension to the bridge from Gavin Street through to the roundabout near Bundaberg North Primary School. A two-lane viaduct to replace Hinkler Drive was previously proposed, although this option was considered cost prohibitive. This option consists of a one-lane viaduct, which would run parallel to Hinkler Drive.

The viaduct would only be used for evacuation purposes. This option would involve:

- Construction of a one-lane viaduct linking the existing Tallon Bridge (near Gavin Street) to the roundabout near Bundaberg North Primary School.
- An on-ramp at Gavin Street and raising of Gavin Street by 300 mm.
- Associated roadworks near the bridge piers and near the roundabout.

Find out more about this option

Community consultation on the flood mitigation options and the findings of the options assessment will take place from 24 October to 20 November 2016. To find out more about the flood mitigation options and to provide your feedback:

Visit the website
www.qld.gov.au/bundabergfloodstudy
Interactive mapping is available on the website so that you can see how the flood mitigation options would change flooding in your area.

Contact the project team
Email: bundabergfloodprotection@jacobs.com
Telephone: 1800 994 015 (during business hours)

Next steps

The Bundaberg flood protection study is due to be completed later this year. Engagement on the 10-year action plan will occur in 2017. It is important to note that the flood mitigation options have not yet been considered by the State government and are not government policy. No commitment will be made on any of the options until the State government has consulted with the community and stakeholders on the 10-year action plan.

The Queensland Government will continue to engage with the Bundaberg community as the action plan develops.