

Heavy Vehicle Alternate Route



The Problem:

Increased mineral sands exploration and mining and growth in logging to the north of Hamilton, as well as the deterioration of the Maroona to Portland rail line has significantly increased truck volumes on the Henty Highway, heading south to the Port of Portland. This has led to a significant deterioration in the condition of the Henty Highway, a negative impact on amenity and liveability within our small towns such as Balmoral and Cavendish, and safety concerns within Hamilton as trucks navigate intersections and roundabouts not designed for B Double's and other modern heavy trucks.

The Solutions:

Community Safety at all major townships:

Detailed traffic management strategy should be implemented in all the Vic Roads Road (Digital signalling, Pedestrian crossings, speed limit review in new situation, movement and place analysis around Balmoral reserves, school zones). Community Safety and perception should be considered during traffic management.

Noise issues:

Given the volume of trucks expected, it is very important to minimise heavy vehicle sounds either by avoiding engine brakes or possible noise attenuation method to be implemented especially around townships.

Environmental and Sustainability impacts:

Volume of trucks expected; environmental impacts expected due to mine dust, wear and tear of roads. Potential minimising measures should be put in place.

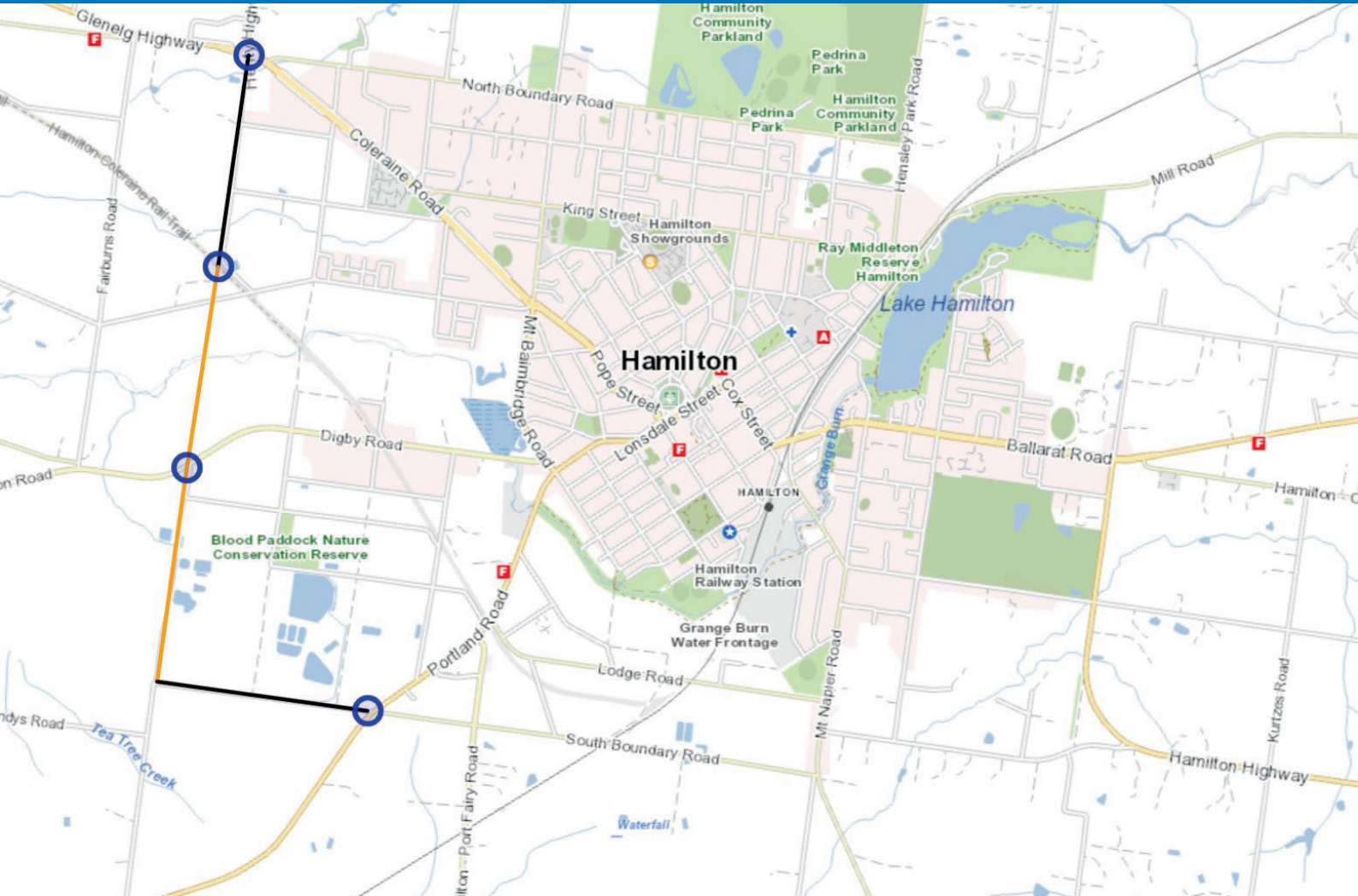
Alternate Truck Route through Hamilton:

The north-south truck route through Hamilton takes heavy vehicles through the town centre, on roads and through intersections not designed for modern heavy vehicles. An alternate route is required for Hamilton, which has been identified in the Hamilton Structure Plan as follows:

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Southern Grampians
SHIRE COUNCIL



The Ask:



Commence a detailed investigation which:

- Considers the net community benefit and ensures extensive consultation is undertaken;
- Supports a phased introduction to allow development in the shorter term;
- Considers the proximity of the route to existing dwellings;
- Provides appropriate buffers to sensitive uses;
- Ensures the long-term protection of the final route through appropriate planning controls; and
- Ensures the application of appropriate speed limits and intersection treatments.

Develop a cost plan.