

Attention: Transport Operators & Drivers

NARRABRI TRUCK PARKING & CHANGEOVER FACILITY

Fatigue is a killer in our industry. There has been tightening of driver fatigue legislation designed to enhance road safety, yet the lack of high-quality truck stop and change-over facilities in strategic locations still remains.

There are approximately 2,800 heavy-vehicle movements through Narrabri each day.

Drivers of these vehicles are travelling via the Newell highway from Queensland to the southern states and vice versa. Due to the requirement to comply with fatigue-management laws, Narrabri is in the ideal location for heavy-vehicle drivers to take a fatigue-management break.

The vehicles that travel this route range from light rigid to road trains. Most drivers have been stopping at the southern side of town, which is close to fuel, mechanical services, food, and a toilet and shower.

However, the current facilities are privately owned and cannot cater for the large number of drivers.

Some examples of the infrastructure required to suit the varying needs of drivers are:

- ▶ Sealed truck / trailer change-over area
- ▶ Sealed parking areas that would cater for B-double and road trains
- ▶ Ramp for loading empty 'B' trailer
- ▶ Sealed areas set aside for vehicles that generate noise (such as refrigerated and livestock vehicles)
- ▶ Washout area
- ▶ Cafeteria
- ▶ Cooking facilities
- ▶ Toilet and shower facilities
- ▶ Lighting
- ▶ Garbage bins

A working group, made up of the TWU, RTA, Narrabri Shire Council, NatRoad and a local representative, has been created.

Discussions have been positive and constructive, but the most obvious obstruction to the success of the project is funding.

We have canvassed the following combination of organisations as the primary funding sources:

- ▶ Federal Government
- ▶ State Government.
- ▶ RTA
- ▶ Narrabri Shire Council
- ▶ Industry

PLEASE COMPLETE OUR SURVEY

The committee has agreed to develop a business plan and would seek the assistance of federal government, state government, the RTA, Narrabri Shire Council and industry prior to approaching the government for any funding.

If successful we believe that a similar model could be used to improve many other sites across NSW and possibly nationally.

Please complete the survey overleaf and forward the completed survey to Michael.forbes@nsw.twu.com.au or Robyn Faber, mayor@narrabri.nsw.gov.au

The survey can also be completed online at www.nswtwu.org

Why not send copies to any other transport operator / owner-driver you know who uses the Newell Highway route and would stop at Narrabri?

We look forward to your valuable input and assistance.

Council gives go ahead for a truck stop concept plan

The Shire Council has authorised the development of a concept plan for a Truck Park at Narrabri. The proposal for a major Truck Park and rest area at Narrabri has been gathering support within the industry over the past year and has been endorsed by the Transport Workers Union which sees a truck stop at Narrabri as a key element in its road safety initiatives.

Last meeting of Council considered a report from the general manager Mr. Marshall which reviewed a meeting about a proposed Truck Park which was held at the Shire Council on April 15.

The aim was to discuss the development of a Truck Stop on either the northern or southern side of Narrabri.

In attendance were representatives of the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) Transport Workers' Union (TWU) the National Road Transport Operators' Association, a local driver and the Council.

As a result of the meeting, the RTA Freight Liaison Officer Mr. Peden was to locate concept plans for a Taree Truck Stop and gather information including a budget.

The Shire's Director of Engineering Services, Mr. Keech was to develop a plan for the southern side of Narrabri and an indicative construction cost, with further discussions on this at the next Truck Park meeting.

The Mayor, Cr. Faber will talk to the office of the Minister, Mr. Anthony Albanese to see what Federal funds are available for a Narrabri Truck Park.

Attention: Transport Operators & Drivers

NARRABRI TRUCK STOP & CHANGE-OVER SURVEY

Name of operator

Location of depot/s

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State/s

Number of vehicles from your company that use the Newell Hwy route via Narrabri:

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What type of vehicle/s would use the proposed facility?

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How frequent would your vehicle/s use the Newell via Narrabri Route?

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Will a truck stop at Narrabri serve you or your drivers for the purpose of a long rest break in accordance with log book requirements ? Yes No

Will a truck stop at Narrabri serve you or your drivers for the purpose of a short rest breaks in accordance with log book requirements ? Yes No

Please indicate the facilities that would best suit the vehicle/s and drivers by placing a tick in the appropriate box.

Sealed Truck & Trailer change over area: Yes No

Sealed Parking Area catering for B-Double and Road Train: Yes No

Load Ramp for loading empty 'B' Trailer: Yes No

Sealed Area Set Aside for Vehicles that Generate Noise such as refrigerated or stock vehicle: Yes No

Wash out area Yes No

Cafeteria Yes No

Cooking Facility such as BBQ Yes No

Toilets Yes No

Showers Yes No

Basic Lighting Yes No

Waste Bins Yes No

Please take the time enter any appropriate comments that relate to the proposed development of this particular site.

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Your Name.....

Your Position (e.g. Owner, Manager, Driver).....

Phone

Fax.....

Mobile.....

E-mail

Please indicate if you are represented by a particular organisation e.g.: TWU, NatRoad or other. (This is not crucial but may assist us later in the campaign)

Organisation Name

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Thank you for participating in the survey, now that we have your contact details we can keep you up dated.

This survey can also be completed at www.nswtwu.org