

6

6. Preferred alignment and bridge type



A steel bridge on the original preferred alignment

Why it is preferred:

- The steel bridge is approximately \$2 million cheaper than the concrete bridge and delivers better value for money to taxpayers. The cost is closer to the project budget and likely to be funded sooner
- The steel bridge is a simpler engineering solution and can be constructed up to 12 months earlier than the concrete bridge
- The steel structure has a slimmer design more in keeping with the existing bridge
- The alignment allows a design speed of 70kph to be achieved and ensures safe road geometry
- Pedestrian and cycling facilities can be incorporated
- The preferred alignment is 20% shorter than Option 3c, meaning lower cost and lower geotechnical risks
- The preferred alignment also means no private property needs to be purchased.