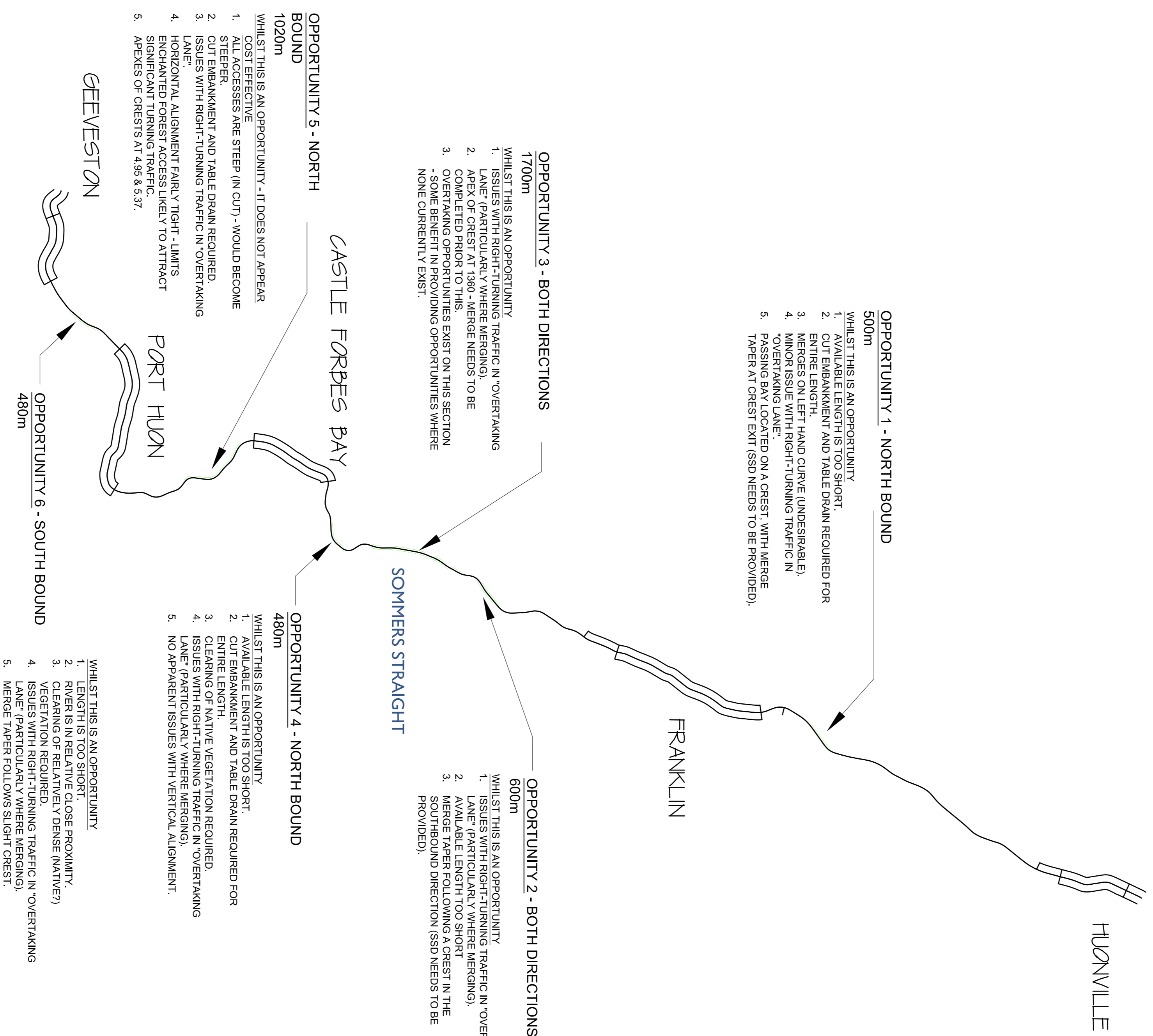


Connecting Communities - Community Roads Program

Huon Highway Overtaking Lanes - Franklin to Geeveston



Location of the Overtaking Lanes

The Department of Infrastructure Energy and Resources (DIER) and the Huon Valley Council jointly identified priorities for the development of overtaking opportunities:

- Priority 1 - Overtaking opportunities between Huonville and Geeveston.
- Priority 2 - Slow vehicle turn outs between Geeveston and Dover.

DIER undertook a technical assessment of the highway between Huonville and Geeveston taking into consideration:

- Existing speed limits - overtaking lanes are more effective in high speed zones.
- Road alignment - a straight section of road is best and very curvy road is less suitable.
- Level of roadside development - location with small number of property accesses and wide road is most suitable.

The initial assessment identified 6 potential locations with Sommers Straight being the most suitable. The proposed location also provides an alternative to the previously used Palmers Road "rat run".

Sommers Straight is currently used for overtaking but does have some potential safety risks:

- There has been near misses with through traffic overtaking residents slowing to enter their properties.
- The road alignment immediately south of Sommers Straight has very low alignment speed.
- There are no suitable areas for school buses to pull over.