



Proposed intersection improvements on Cumberland Highway and Merrylands Road, Greystanes

Community Consultation Report

July 2017

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Executive summary

This report provides a summary of the community and stakeholder consultation carried out by Roads and Maritime Services in June 2017 on proposed intersection improvements at Cumberland Highway and Merrylands Road, Greystanes.

The NSW Government is funding this proposal as part of its \$300 million Urban Roads Pinch Points Program, which aims to reduce congestion and improve travel times on Sydney's busiest road corridors, particularly during weekday peak periods.

The proposed intersection improvements include:

- installing dual right turn lanes east and westbound on Merrylands Road and northbound on Cumberland Highway
- removing the existing traffic island on Merrylands Road at the southeast corner of the intersection
- modifying the westbound bus bay on the southern side of Merrylands Road
- installing barriers along the southbound carriageway of Cumberland Highway on the south east corner of the intersection
- adjusting the central road medians on all approaches of the intersection to accommodate the new turning lanes
- realigning the westbound left turn slip lane on the Cumberland Highway to accommodate the new intersection layout
- adjusting the existing traffic signals to support the new intersection
- adjusting footpaths and kerbs
- trimming and removing trees and shrubs.

We distributed over 4700 letters to the local community and key stakeholders, inviting feedback on the proposed improvements.

We received a total of 8 comments from 7 community members regarding the scope of the proposal, environmental impacts and private property impacts.

We have directly responded to all community members who provided feedback.

Roads and Maritime has considered all feedback and will proceed with the proposed intersection improvements at Cumberland Highway and Merrylands Road, Greystanes.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who provided comments on this proposal.

We will update the community and stakeholders on construction timeframes closer to the start of work.

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1. Introduction

1.1. Background

A study of traffic conditions along the Cumberland Highway corridor identified a problem with vehicles queueing out of the northbound right turn bay at Merrylands Road. This problem impacts on northbound through traffic flow in the Cumberland Highway. Site observations also show that substantial queueing out of right turn bays also occurs in Merrylands Road creating delays especially for eastbound traffic.

The NSW Government is funding this proposal as part of its \$300 million Urban Roads Pinch Point Program, which aims to reduce congestion and improve travel times on Sydney's busiest corridors

The proposal is intended to:

- reduce congestion and improved travel times in both the AM and PM peak periods
- improve traffic flow on Cumberland Highway and Merrylands Road
- improve safety for pedestrians and road users.

1.2. The proposal

Roads and Maritime proposed improvements to the intersection on the Cumberland Highway and Merrylands Road include:

- installing dual right turn lanes east and westbound on Merrylands Road and northbound on Cumberland Highway
- removing the existing traffic island on Merrylands Road at the southeast corner of the intersection
- modifying the westbound bus bay on the southern side of Merrylands Road
- installing barriers along the southbound carriageway of Cumberland Highway on the south east corner of the intersection
- adjusting the central road medians on all approaches of the intersection to accommodate the new turning lanes
- realigning the westbound left turn slip lane on the Cumberland Highway to accommodate the new intersection layout
- adjusting the existing traffic signals to support the new intersection
- adjusting footpaths and kerbs
- trimming and removing trees and shrubs.

2. Consultation approach

2.1. Consultation objectives

We consulted with the community in June 2017 to:

- seek comment, feedback, ideas, and suggestions for us to consider when developing the proposal
- build a database of interested and concerned community members who we could continue to engage during the development of the proposal.

2.2. How consultation was done

We sought feedback on the proposal between 07 June 2017 to 21 June 2017. Community members were encouraged to provide their feedback, leave comments and make submissions via mail, email or phone contact with the project team.

The following table outlines the communication tools used to inform the community about the proposal:

Table 1 – How consultation was done

Have Your Say community update – June 2017 (Appendix A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Distributed to over 4700 local residents, businesses and key stakeholders in the Greystanes area (Appendix B)• Direct emails and letters sent to businesses, utilities, emergency services, schools, hospitals, community groups and relevant stakeholders in the local area• Direct email to Cumberland Council, State and Federal ministers.
Newspaper Advertising	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Adverts placed in the Parramatta Advertiser and the Parramatta Sun
Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Details of the proposal uploaded on the Roads and Maritime Services website.

3. Consultation summary

3.1. Overview

We received a total of 8 comments from 7 people. Key matters raised included the scope of the proposal, environmental impacts and private property impacts.

3.2. Responses to issues raised

Roads and Maritime has provided responses to all feedback received on this proposal. The responses are provided directly to the person who commented as well as in this report, which will be made available to the public through our website rms.nsw.gov.au.

All comments have been considered to help Roads and Maritime make decisions on this proposal.

Table 2 – Consultation Responses

Category	Matters raised	Roads and Maritime Services’s response
<p>Proposal (Five Comments)</p>	<p>The pedestrian crossing on the south western corner should be replaced with traffic signals as drivers often turn this corner at high speeds and accelerate on Merrylands Road (Two comments)</p>	<p>The existing marked pedestrian crossing on the south western corner will be replaced with a signalised pedestrian crossing.</p>
	<p>The southbound right turn lane on the Great Western Highway to Merrylands Road in the westbound direction should to be duplicated or extended as it is often queues out.</p>	<p>Traffic modelling and site observations undertaken confirms that the length of the existing Cumberland Highway right turn bay is sufficient to accommodate right turn demands from Cumberland Highway to Merrylands Road in the westbound direction.</p>
	<p>Request that RMS to make it easier for residents to turn right out of Beechwood Avenue onto Merrylands Road.</p>	<p>At this time there are no changes proposed for right turning traffic from Beechwood Avenue to Merrylands Road.</p>
	<p>Cumberland Highway should be run under Merrylands Road.</p>	<p>A study of traffic conditions along the Cumberland Highway corridor identified a problem with vehicles queueing out of the northbound right turn bay at Merrylands Road. This problem impacts on northbound through traffic flow in the Cumberland Highway. Site observations also show that substantial queuing out of right turn bays also occurs in Merrylands Road creating delays especially for eastbound traffic.</p> <p>This proposal is intended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce traffic delays associated with right turning movements blocking or delaying through movements on Cumberland Highway and Merrylands Road • Provide dedicated right turn capacity on Cumberland Highway northbound and east and westbound on Merrylands Road • Improve road safety by reducing the potential

Table 2 – Consultation Responses

Category	Matters raised	Roads and Maritime Services’s response
		<p>for ‘rear end’ and ‘lane change’ type crashes caused by through vehicles conflicting with queued right-turning vehicles that block the through lanes on Cumberland Highway and Merrylands Road</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce congestion and improved travel times in both the AM and PM peak periods • Improve traffic flow on Cumberland Highway and Merrylands Road • Improve safety for pedestrians. <p>At this time running Cumberland Highway under Merrylands Road is not being considered.</p>
<p>Impact to private property (One comment)</p>	<p>Will access to my driveway be impacted during the works?</p>	<p>Access to driveways will be maintained at all times where possible. Early consultation with impacted residents will occur in advance of any planned disruptions to the operation of driveways during construction. This aspect would be coordinated by contractors engaged to undertake the works on behalf of the Roads and Maritime.</p>
<p>Environment (Two comments)</p>	<p>Can noise barrier walls to be considered for the residences on the western side of the Cumberland Highway due to an increase in the road reserve and traffic movements?</p>	<p>The proposed design includes widening on the eastern side of Cumberland Highway as opposed to the western side to accommodate the additional right turn lane northbound on Cumberland Highway.</p> <p>A noise impact assessment was carried out for the proposal. The result showed that the future noise levels for properties on the Western side of Cumberland Highway would not increase existing levels by more than 2 decibels after completion of the project.</p> <p>Typically an increase in noise below two decibels is not</p>

Table 2 – Consultation Responses

Category	Matters raised	Roads and Maritime Services's response
		perceptible.
	<p>Why do trees or shrubs need to be removed? Will the removal of trees impact noise levels to my property following construction?</p>	<p>Roads and Maritime has developed its design to reduce the number of trees, shrubs and vegetation that need to be removed to enable road widening to fit in the proposed additional turning lanes.</p> <p>A Review of Environmental Factors will be prepared to assess the environmental impacts of the proposal and to outline the measures that must be taken in order to manage and mitigate these impacts.</p> <p>A noise impact assessment was carried out for the proposal. The result showed that the future noise levels for properties on the Eastern side of Cumberland Highway would not increase existing levels by more than 2 decibels after completion of the project.</p> <p>Typically an increase in noise below two decibels is not perceptible</p>

4. Recommendations

Roads and Maritime would like to thank everyone who took the time to consider our proposal and provide feedback.

We have considered the comments received and decided to proceed with the project as proposed.

5. Next Steps

Roads and Maritime will finalise the detailed design and environmental assessment for the project.

We will continue to keep the community informed as the project progresses.

Appendix A – Have Your Say



June 2017

Have your say – Proposed intersection improvements at Cumberland Highway and Merrylands Road, Greystanes

The NSW Government is funding this proposal as part of its \$300 million Urban Roads Pinch Point Program, which aims to reduce congestion and improve travel times on Sydney's busiest corridors.

Roads and Maritime Services is inviting your feedback by **Wednesday 21 June 2017** on proposed intersection improvements at Cumberland Highway and Merrylands Road, Greystanes.

The proposal includes:

- installing dual right turn lanes east and westbound on Merrylands Road and northbound on Cumberland Highway
- removing the existing traffic island on Merrylands Road at the southeast corner of the intersection
- modifying the westbound bus bay on the southern side of Merrylands Road
- installing barriers along the southbound carriageway of Cumberland Highway on the south east corner of the intersection
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- adjusting the existing traffic signals to support the new intersection
- adjusting footpaths and kerbs
- trimming and removing trees and shrubs.

Benefits would include:

- reduced congestion and improved travel times in both the AM and PM peak periods
- improved traffic flow on Cumberland Highway and Merrylands Road
- improved safety for pedestrians and road users.

We have included a map to show the location of the proposal.

Cumberland Highway and Merrylands Road, Greystanes



Have Your Say

We invite your feedback on our proposal by **Wednesday 21 June 2017**. You can provide your comments by:

Emailing pinchpoints@rms.nsw.gov.au

Writing to Pinch Point Program, Roads and Maritime Services, PO Box 973, Parramatta, NSW, 2124

Calling our Project Manager, George Elhage, during business hours, on 02 8849 2369.

Next Steps

We will consider all feedback before deciding whether to proceed with this proposal. A community consultation report will be prepared summarising the matters raised during the consultation period, and will be made available on our website.

We will keep you updated as the proposal progresses.



If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 02 8849 2369.

Appendix B – Distribution Map



rms.nsw.gov.au



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Customer feedback
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