Roads and Maritime Services projects are part of the NSW Government’s record investment in infrastructure projects. The Easing Sydney’s Congestion Program Office is working to deliver road improvements to reduce congestion and improve travel times on Sydney’s busiest corridors.

Easing Sydney’s Congestion initiatives such as the pinch points programs aim to address congestion on the Sydney metropolitan road network, making our roads better for our community. Other key congestion busting programs include the delivery of the M4 Smart Motorway, the Parramatta Congestion Improvement Program and the accelerated Clearways Program.

Pinch points are traffic congestion points, intersections or short lengths of road at which a traffic bottleneck exists slowing down the broader network. They cause a build-up of traffic and travel delays at these spots and on the wider road network.

The Pinch Points program aims to address congestion on Sydney’s existing road network, by targeting these areas for improvement, with small scale traffic improvements to improve the capacity of the road network, without needing to build new roads.

At Roads and Maritime Services we know it is important to engage the community as we build our work around the state. Local communities have first-hand knowledge of an area and local knowledge is critical to getting the best outcomes for our projects. We engage with affected residents and businesses early on when we propose improvements to include their feedback into the design and delivery of our projects.

Keeping Sydney moving now and into the future
What is a Pinch Point project?

Projects to help ease congestion and traffic calming measures at pinch points include:

- Widening small sections of road or intersection
- Lengthening turn bays
- Adding extra turn bays or turning lanes
- Replacing heavily used roundabouts with traffic signals
- Installing closed circuit television (CCTV) cameras and electronic message signs (VMS).

Benefits of pinch point projects include:

- A more efficient Sydney’s road network
- Reduced congestion and more consistency of travel times for motorists, particularly during peak hours
- Fewer delays due to a better flow of traffic
- Reduced queue lengths for motorists
- Improved safety at intersections for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists
- Better information for motorists while they are travelling on our road network
- Improved freight efficiency
- Better access to key employment centres
- Stronger ability to respond to incidents and planned events
- Reducing the impact of noise and traffic on local residents.

Pinch Point projects across Sydney
**Case Studies**

**Intersection improvement at Norwest Boulevard, Greenhill Drive and Old Windsor Road, Glenwood**

Traffic flow along Norwest Boulevard between the M7 Motorway, Old Windsor and Windsor Roads was slowed by motorists queuing in through lanes while waiting to turn right into Greenhill Drive and Old Windsor Road. This caused congestion and lengthening delays.

**What did we do?**
- Extended the westbound right turn bay on Norwest Boulevard onto Greenhill Drive
- Extended the eastbound right turn bay on Norwest Boulevard onto Old Windsor Road
- Extended part of the existing concrete median on Norwest Boulevard and installing new kerb, concrete, asphalt and line marking.

**What benefits did we create?**
This project has had a significant safety benefit already. Crash analysis found overall crash numbers have decreased at this intersection.
- Overall crashes reduced from 7.6 to 4.5 per annum
- Rear end crashes reduced by 100% (from 2.2 per year to zero)
- Travel time savings for both intersections are 24% during the AM peak, and 18% during the PM peak
- On average a customer travelling on Old Windsor Road through to Greenhill Drive and returning will save nearly 3 hours per year
- We are moving more vehicles through this intersection at peak times, which has eased congestion.

**Upgrades to Grand Parade and President Avenue, Brighton Le Sands**

The Grand Parade is a State arterial corridor that carries 65,000 trips each day and provides key access to Sydney’s CBD and Kingsford Smith Airport from Sydney’s southern suburbs and the Illawarra Region. Motorists travelling southbound on The Grand Parade experienced delays when vehicles turning into President Avenue overflowed from right turn bay into through lanes.

**What did we do?**
- Provided an additional right turn lane from The Grand Parade onto President Avenue
- Removed about nine car spaces on the eastern side of The Grand Parade
- Relocated the existing southbound bus stop about 100 metres south on The Grand Parade
- Moved the kerb and gutter and line marking on the western side of The Grand Parade
- Relocated and upgraded traffic lights, street lighting and underground utilities
- Upgraded existing pedestrian ramps
- Installed a new safety barrier on the western side of The Grand Parade
- Installed pedestrian fencing along The Grand Parade centre median between President Avenue and Banks Street.

**What benefits did we create?**
- On average a customer will save 2 minutes and 18 seconds per trip, which equates to 9.6 hours per year for motorists that commute on this road each day
- Reduced frequency of the right turn bay overflowing along The Grand Parade southbound at President Avenue
- Improved traffic flow, reduced delays and improved safety at the intersection
- Improved pedestrian safety with the installation of pedestrian fencing in the centre median.

**Extra right turning lanes**
Pinch Point Programs

Since 2012 we have completed 197 projects, with huge benefits across the Sydney network.

$466 million spent
$1.1 billion in realised benefits
We are already saving Sydney motorists millions of vehicle hours per year

**Pinch Point Program**
- **Value:** $225 million
- **Life of program:** 2012–2018
- **Projects:** 163 projects and initiatives, comprising of 62 pinchpoints projects, 33 variable message signs and 68 closed circuit televisions

**Urban Road Pinch Point Program**
- **Value:** $300 million
- **Life of program:** 2016–2021
- **Projects:** 31 projects, comprising of 10 pinch points projects, 15 variable message signs and 6 closed circuit televisions

**Gateway to the South Pinch Point Program**
- **Value:** $300 million
- **Life of program:** 2016–2021
- **Projects:** 4 projects and initiatives

Contact us
If you have any questions or would like more information on our Pinch Point programs please contact the project team on:

- **Email:** pinchpoint@rms.nsw.gov.au
- **Website:** rms.nsw.gov.au/pinchpoints/
- **Facebook:** facebook.com/NSWRoads

If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 13 22 13.