Sydney Harbour Bridge northern painting program

The NSW Government is funding this essential maintenance, which will help maintain the structural integrity of the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Earlier this year, we wrote to let you know that a containment structure for repainting the Sydney Harbour Bridge was moving over Bradfield Park on the western side of the bridge in May 2017.

Work continues on the western side with the containment structure continuing to move north. Thank you for your patience during this important maintenance work.

As indicated in May, the containment structure on the eastern side of the bridge will now move over Bradfield Park as well. Some areas of the park will be inaccessible during this work.

When will the move happen?

We will move the containment structure on the eastern side of the Sydney Harbour Bridge above Bradfield Park on Friday 4 August 2017, weather permitting. We will also set up a new safety zone underneath the containment structure in Bradfield Park.

Work within the containment structures will continue while the structures are in place above Bradfield Park. We have included a diagram to show the location of the work, and the future path of the safety zone.

Containment structures and safety zones

The work is carried out in completely enclosed containment structures on either side of the bridge. Safety zones below the structures are established and fenced off. Each safety zone is about 300 square metres in total, with the zone about 15 metres x 20 metres. The work is completed in sections and it takes about 30 work days to complete each section of work.

In addition to the safety zones beneath the containment structures, temporary exclusion areas are put in in place to allow for the movement of the containment structures. The exclusion areas are in place for three days during each section of work, weather permitting, and are removed at the end of each shift.

What is a containment structure?

The containment structures are enclosed environments used when we are blasting, repairing and repainting the steelwork. Working inside these structures means that any remaining lead-based paint will be removed from the steel and is completely sealed inside and can be disposed of safely so it doesn’t pose a risk to the environment.
How will the work affect you?

In addition to the safety zones and exclusion areas, there will be some noise associated with the work undertaken within the containment structures. The noisiest part of the work will be during the blasting phase. We expect this work to take about eight to ten days for each section. Work will start at 8am and stop at 5pm on weekdays. Saturday working hours will be 8am to 2:30pm. We will make every effort to minimise noise by completing the work as quickly as possible. Fenced safety zones will be inaccessible during the work.

Pedestrian traffic changes

There will be some temporary closures of the pedestrian walkway in Bradfield Park, to ensure the work zone is safe.

At times when the pedestrian walkway through Bradfield Park is closed, there will be diversions in place. Please follow the direction of traffic controllers and signs.

Cycleway safety

To ensure the safety of workers and cyclists, the Sydney Harbour Bridge cycleway is narrowed to ensure safe clearance around the containment structures used to repaint the bridge. Following feedback from the community and stakeholders, including Bicycle NSW, we engaged a traffic and transport consultant to carry out a safety assessment of the area to ensure we are delivering the best possible safe conditions for cycleway users.

We have taken a number of actions to improve safety around the containment structures based on advice received during the assessment. More information on the cycleway safety improvements is available at rms.nsw.gov.au/sydneyharbourbridge.

Contact

If you have any questions, please call the Sydney Harbour Bridge Works Manager, Waruna Kaluarachchi on 0411 149 412 or email waruna.kaluarachchi@rms.nsw.gov.au.

For more information on this project, visit rms.nsw.gov.au/sydneyharbourbridge. Thank you for your patience during this important work.