Dear resident / business operator

The Sydney Harbour Bridge is an important part of the Sydney road network and after 80 years requires essential waterproofing and resurfacing work. To do this essential work, we need to close the bridge to motorists for up to three weekends in January 2012.

This is the first time in 80 years we will strip back the road surface to the original concrete deck to carry out essential maintenance. The work will:

• create a smoother, quieter and more durable road surface.
• reduce the risk of corrosion and structural damage on the deck.
• reduce the need for reactive maintenance.
• rejuvenate the bridge which will be 80 years old on 19 March 2012.

The bridge will be closed to traffic

The bridge will be closed to motorists for up to three weekends in January (13-16, 20-23, 27-30) from 10pm Friday until 5am Monday. We will waterproof and resurface lanes 1 to 6 and the southern and northern approaches to the bridge. All traffic will detour to other routes. Emergency vehicles will have access across the bridge. Buses, hire cars, motorcycles and taxis will still be able to use the bridge, however delays are still expected.

We apologise for the inconvenience, however, it is essential to close the bridge for extended periods due to the nature of the work which involves stripping back the road surface to the original concrete deck.

Why now?

The January holiday period normally has lower traffic volumes than at other times, so this is why we have scheduled this work now. Warm temperatures are also the best time to apply a waterproof membrane so it can dry quickly.

Public transport will run as usual

If travelling to the city, catch a train. Please leave the car at home as there will be significant delays. Buses and trains will continue to operate. Visitors to Festival of Sydney events and match-goers to the Sydney Cricket Ground and Sydney Football Stadium should leave the car at home and use public transport during January.

Driving information

Where possible, motorists are advised not to drive because there will be extensive delays. If you choose to drive, the alternative routes to cross the harbour are King Georges Road, Ryde Bridge and Lane Cove Road; and Victoria Road, Gladesville Bridge and Centennial Avenue. Clearways will be in operation on strategic corridors across Sydney to help manage traffic flow.

Walking or cycling on the bridge?

The bridge will remain open to pedestrians on the eastern side and cyclists on the western side. Please be aware that if you are walking or cycling across the bridge on these weekends you may notice an odour from the waterproofing.

Noise for local residents

There will be some noise from this work. We will try to minimise the noise from construction for nearby residents by scheduling noisy activities to daytime hours wherever possible.

However on the Friday nights we will remove the existing asphalt surface on the bridge deck. This will commence as soon as traffic lanes are closed to ensure we can waterproof and reopen by Monday morning.

More information or to contact us

We will be doorknocking nearby residents and businesses. We encourage you to contact us if you have any questions. Alternatively, please visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au for further information.

You can also register for SMS alerts on this website to receive up to date information on closures.

We appreciate your understanding and apologise for any inconvenience this work may cause.

Contact:
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Yours faithfully

Peter Andrews
South Zone Maintenance | Sydney Project Services
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