Background
The NSW Government is planning to upgrade roads around the new Northern Beaches Hospital with work proposed to be completed in time for the hospital opening. These upgrades would provide customers with a better travel experience by car and bus, increase the capacity of the road network and improve access throughout the area for all road users including pedestrians and cyclists.

Roads and Maritime Services is planning to deliver the road upgrades in two stages:

- Stage 1 Connectivity Work would provide essential access to the Northern Beaches Hospital
- Stage 2 Network Enhancement Work would help increase capacity of the road network and reduce congestion.

Both stages of the project will be assessed in accordance with Part 5.1 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
Environmental Impact Statement – Concept Proposal and Stage 1

Roads and Maritime prepared an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Concept Proposal and Stage 1 Connectivity Work. The EIS was placed on public display from 22 October 2014 to 21 November 2014 with community and stakeholders invited to make submissions to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment.

The EIS outlined the key features of the proposal and the potential environmental, social and economic impacts during construction and operation. It also outlined measures to minimise and manage potential impacts. Roads and Maritime is also seeking approval from the Minister for Planning to carry out utility adjustment work for the Stage 2 project area as part of the Preferred Infrastructure Report.

There were 45 submissions received from the community, interest groups, government agencies and Warringah Council.

Roads and Maritime has prepared a Submissions Report/Preferred Infrastructure Report, which responds to the matters the community and stakeholders raised.

The report also provides additional information about changes proposed to the displayed EIS.

You can view the report on the Department of Planning and Environment’s website at www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au.

Key matters raised in submissions to the EIS

Of the 45 submissions, five were from government agencies (or advisory bodies), one from Warringah Council and the remainder from members of the community and interest groups.

The most common points the community and interest groups raised were:

- Justification for the Concept Proposal, including the scale of the proposed work and consideration of future public transport initiatives
- The context of the Concept Proposal considering local planning and development pressures
- Traffic and transport including:
  - Changes to local traffic arrangements
  - Provisions for pedestrians and cyclists
  - Provisions for public transport
  - Changes to car parking
  - Alternative transport routes during construction
  - Suggested design changes to improve performance of specific intersections
- Direct, indirect and cumulative impacts on biodiversity, particularly on threatened species and Duffys Forest ecological community, and the adequacy of the proposed biodiversity offset strategy
- Direct and indirect impacts on businesses
- Reduced amenity in the local area, particularly considering changes to landscape character, future land use, noise, air quality and loss of vegetation.

These matters are outlined in Chapters 3 and 4 of the Submissions Report.

Additional investigation and assessment

Since the display of the EIS, Roads and Maritime has carried out additional investigation work and design refinements which are detailed in Chapters 5, 6 and 7 of the Submissions Report. These were carried out to address commitments made in the EIS and/or in response to comments received from the community and government agencies. They include:

- Adjustments to and protection of utility services
- Assessment of a second construction compound site on Roads and Maritime land at the intersection of Warringah Road and Wakehurst Parkway
- Project changes associated with:
  - Revised parking arrangements at the Skyline Shops
  - Refinements to the design of the shared paths
  - Provision of an additional pedestrian crossing at traffic lights on Frenchs Forest Road West between Bluegum Crescent and Sylvia Place
- Additional traffic and transport assessment based on refinements made to the traffic model subsequent to display of the EIS
- Additional assessment of construction and operational noise impacts.
Revised safeguards and management measures

The EIS identified a number of environmental outcomes and management measures that would need to be implemented to avoid or reduce environmental impacts. After considering matters raised in submissions, some of the management measures for the project have been revised. The environmental measures are detailed in Chapter 7 of the Submissions Report and will be applied to future development and/or delivery phases of the project.

Next steps

Stage 1 Connectivity Work
The Department of Planning and Environment will consider the responses Roads and Maritime has provided to the submissions as part of its assessment of the project. The Minister for Planning will then decide whether or not to approve the project and identify any conditions of approval that would apply. If approved, Roads and Maritime would continue to consult with the community, government agencies and other stakeholders during the detailed design and construction phases of the project.

Stage 2 Network Enhancement Work
Roads and Maritime is preparing an EIS for the road upgrades proposed in Stage 2 of the project and will submit the EIS to the Department of Planning and Environment for public display by mid-2015. The EIS will outline the key features of the proposal and the potential environmental, social and economic impacts during construction and operation. It will also outline measures to manage and reduce the identified impacts.

Timeline

- Publish Submissions Report (Concept Proposal and Stage 1) Responding to all matters raised in submissions
  - Update Community

- Concept Proposal and Stage 1 considered for approval by the Minister for Planning
  - Update Community on approvals outcome

- If approved, complete detailed design and start construction (Stage 1)
  - Ongoing consultation with community about final designs and construction impacts (Stage 1)

- Display Stage 2 EIS for comment

- Publish Submissions Report (Stage 2) responding to all issues raised in formal submissions
  - Update Community

- Stage 2 Proposal considered for approval by the Minister for Planning
  - Update Community on approvals outcome

- If approved, complete detailed design and start construction (Stage 2)
  - Ongoing consultation with community about final designs and construction impacts (Stage 2)

- Complete Construction Stage 1
- Complete Construction Stage 2
Further information
For more information or queries about the project, please contact our team:
Email: nbhroadwork@rms.nsw.gov.au
Phone: 1300 367 459

Translating and Interpreting Service
If you need an interpreter, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on 131 450 and ask them to telephone Roads and Maritime Services on 1300 367 459

Arabic
إذا كنت بحاجة إلى مترجم للاتصال بالترجمة (TIS National) على الرقم 131 450، فاطلب منهم أن يرتبطوا بالخدمات للطرق والطريق (Roads and Maritime Services) على الرقم 1300 367 459.

Cantonese
若你需要口譯員，請致電 131 450 聯絡翻譯和口譯服務（TIS National），要求他們致電 1300 367 459 聯絡道路和海事事務

Mandarin
如果你需要口譯員，請致電 131 450 聯絡翻譯和口譯服務（TIS National），要求他們致電 1300 367 459 聯絡道路和海事事務

Greek
Αν χρειάζεστε διερμηνεία, παρακαλείστε να τηλεφωνήσετε στην Υπηρεσία Μετάφρασης και Διερμηνείας (Εθνική Υπηρεσία TIS) στο 131 450 και ζητήστε να τηλεφωνήσουν Roads and Maritime Services στο 1300 367 459.

Italian

Korean
통역사가 필요하시면 번역통역서비스 (TIS National)에 131 450으로 연락하여 이들에게 1300 367 459 번으로 Roads and Maritime Services 에 전화하도록 요청하십시오.

Vietnamese
Nếu cần thông ngôn viên, xin quý vị gọi cho Dịch Vụ Thông Phản Dịch (TIS Toàn Quốc) qua số 131 450 và nhờ họ gọi cho Roads and Maritime Services qua số 1300 367 459.

Roads and Maritime Services
Privacy: Roads and Maritime Services ("RMS") is subject to the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 ("PPIP Act") which requires that we comply with the Information Privacy Principles set out in the PPIP Act.
All information in correspondence is collected for the sole purpose of assisting in the assessment of this proposal. The information received, including names and addresses of respondents, may be published in subsequent documents unless a clear indication is given in the correspondence that all or part of that information is not to be published. Otherwise RMS will only disclose your personal information, without your consent, if authorised by the law. Your personal information will be held by Roads and Maritime Services at Level 6, 27 Argyle Street Parramatta NSW 2150. You have the right to access and correct the information if you believe that it is incorrect.