Community update 4

M5 West Widening

AUGUST 2013

Message from the Project Director

The first year of construction on the M5 West Widening Project is now finished and the project is on track to be completed in December 2014. Work has been progressing well. Major works to the Queen Street Bridge, Revesby were successfully completed in July.

We are proud of our involvement in converting the M5 South West Motorway to cashless tolling on 1 July. This was the last motorway in Australia to convert to cashless tolling. The conversion will help reduce congestion and improve traffic flow on the motorway.

Safety is our number one priority. We also make every effort to minimise our impact on the local community and keep everyone informed.

We work closely with motorway users, nearby residents, businesses and stakeholders to ensure that everyone has access to information about the project and works which may impact them. To keep you informed and answer your queries we issue these community updates, regularly update our website and manage a project email address and toll free information line.

We are grateful for the ongoing patience and support from nearby residents, businesses and motorists during recent works.

Kind regards,

Richard Petaccia
Project Director, Abigroup Contractors
M5 West Widening

Construction update

Ten construction access gates have now been set up along the motorway so that work in the median can take place during the day and night with minimal impact on traffic. These gates have allowed significant progress to be made in all areas of the project.

Over 5.6 kilometres of new asphalt has been laid in the median, mainly between the Georges River west, Liverpool and the Camden Valley Way, Prestons. New work areas will soon be established in the road shoulders allowing further excavation and earthwork to occur.

Noise wall construction and heightening work is underway in various areas. Residents may have noticed posts and brackets installed to heighten existing noise walls in some locations along the motorway.

Concrete work at Queen Street Bridge, Revesby is now complete. A new deck has been constructed, allowing an additional two lanes to be added to the bridge once the asphaltling is complete.

Piling work at Nuwarra Road Bridge, Moorebank is near completion and will be followed by support beam construction and concrete work. Local residents will be kept informed as work to the bridge progresses.
Closure of cash booths on 1 July 2013

The M5 South West Motorway converted to cashless tolling on 1 July 2013. Motorists now need a correctly installed tag in their vehicle or an e-pass when they travel.

The cash lanes are now closed at the Hammondville Toll Plaza and ramps. Please drive carefully and follow the signs.

A new toll gantry and tag reader has been installed at the Hammondville Toll Plaza, the Fairford Road on and off ramps and Henry Lawson Drive off ramp. New toll gantries and tag readers will also be installed on The River Road on and off ramps and Henry Lawson Drive on ramp in August. The new tag readers will be tested between July and September 2013.

During tag reader testing, motorists may hear two beeps as they pass through the existing and new tolling points, instead of the usual one beep.

Motorists will only be charged one toll, as the new tolling system is not yet connected to the existing tolling system. Temporary signs have been installed at the toll plaza to let motorists know testing is underway.

For further information on tolling products including e-TAGs and visitors passes, visit www.tollpay.com.au or www.sydneymotorways.com

Traffic switches

As work in the central median decreases, work sites will shift to the shoulder area of the motorway. As these new work areas are established, motorists will notice that they will be driving on newly asphalted lanes.

FOUR MONTH LOOK AHEAD

- Clearing vegetation.
- Constructing sediment basins.
- Fibre optic and electrical works.
- Establishing new work areas in the road shoulders of the motorway.
- Excavating and stabilising work in the median and road shoulders.
- Constructing and heightening noise walls.
- Service investigation, relocation and drainage works.
- Asphalt and pavement works.
- Bridge support beams and concreting works.
- Line marking.
- Re-aligning traffic lanes and placing temporary and permanent traffic barriers.
- Toll gantry modifications.
- Variable message sign installation work.
Construction innovations

Installing drains along the motorway is an essential component of construction but can also be very time consuming. An effective alternative to the usual drainage design has been engineered for the M5 South West Motorway.

The previous type of drain installed in the middle of the motorway was constructed using a hand-placed trench grate drain. Instead, a new slip form slotted drain has been used. This is constructed by pouring concrete mix over an inflated tube. Once the concrete has cured, the tube is removed leaving a ‘v-drain’ kerb which allows water to flow continuously. This alternative drainage design is quicker to install, easier to maintain and safer to workers, traffic controllers and motorists.

Urban Design and Landscape Management Plan

We would like to thank everyone who provided feedback on the Urban Design and Landscape Management Plan.

We are currently investigating alternative noise wall materials. As a result, the colour to the resident side of the new and modified noise walls is proposed to change. The resident side of the new noise wall panels is proposed to change to ‘Fairoaks’ and will be the same as the motorway side of the noise wall. The proposed dark green colour is shown to the right. There are no proposed colour changes to the motorway side of the noise wall panels. We are seeking feedback from the community regarding the proposed colour change.

How do I provide feedback?

Please provide feedback by 30 August 2013 by contacting the project team on the toll free community hotline, 1800 986 933 or by emailing info@m5westwidening.com.au

Keeping you informed

The M5 West Widening team is committed to keeping you informed. The Community Relations team is here to respond to enquiries and provide information. Work notifications and events are always posted on the project website: www.m5westwidening.com.au and the team can always be contacted by:

1800 986 933 (toll free)  PO Box 21 Moorebank NSW 1875  info@m5westwidening.com.au
**Sustainability initiatives**

Sustainable materials are often used throughout the project. The wire rope components of the old median barriers will be kept and re-used to reinforce the new concrete barriers. Recycling wire rope is a cost effective and environmentally friendly alternative to sourcing new metals for the new barriers.

**Protecting local waterways**

The M5 West Widening Team is committed to protecting local waterways. A number of strategies have been implemented on the project to stop accidental fuel and oil spills from the motorway flowing into nearby rivers, including under deck drainage and sediment basins.

New under deck drainage will be installed on the Salt Pan Creek and Georges River east bridges. This drainage captures surface run-off and channels it towards new and existing sediment basins. A sediment basin is a pond capturing sediment, silt and petrochemicals washed off the motorway in rain storms. Sediment settles in the pond and water run-off is discharged. There will be approximately 23 new and upgraded sediment basins along the length of the motorway to protect the quality of local waterways.

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**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 the Community Information Line on 1800 986 933.

**Arabic**

إذا كنت بحاجة إلى مرجم، الرجاء الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة (TIS National) على الرقم 131 450، وطلب منهم الاتصال بنا على الرقم 1800 986 933.

**Cantonese**

若你需要口譯員，請致電 131 450 聯絡翻譯和口譯服務署 (TIS National)，要求他們致電 1800 986 933 聯絡。

**Mandarin**

如果你需要口譯員，請致電 131 450 聯系翻譯和口譯服務署 (TIS National)，要求他們致電 1800 986 933 聯系。

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