



## Frequently Asked Questions - March 2018

Roads and Maritime Services is upgrading the Princes Highway between Berry and Bomaderry. The upgrade will provide about 10.5 kilometres of four-lane highway between Mullers Lane, Berry and Cambewarra Road, Bomaderry.

### General questions

#### What work is currently being carried out?

As of February 2018, we are preparing for major construction.

This includes relocating utility services, clearing land and moving fencing near the existing highway in preparation for the highway upgrade. Current work sites are not indicative of the exact location of the new highway. This work is expected to be finished in coming months, weather permitting.

#### When will major construction start?

We will announce the construction contractor in early 2018 and are on track to start major construction in the first half of 2018.

#### Is funding allocated?

The NSW Government has committed to completing the highway upgrade and has provided \$19 million in 2017/18 financial year to start construction of the highway upgrade.

#### What are the benefits of the highway upgrade between Berry and Bomaderry?

The project will:

- improve safety
- increase road capacity
- improve traffic flow
- deliver better and more reliable journeys
- increase overtaking opportunities
- allow for future growth

## **What community consultation has taken place so far?**

The concept design and review of environmental factors for the project were placed on public display in November 2013 and the community was invited to provide feedback.

We carefully considered the feedback received and prepared a submissions report that acknowledges and addresses each issue raised. This report can be viewed or downloaded from the [project documents page](#) via [www.rms.nsw.gov.au/BBU](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/BBU).

During construction, we will continue to keep the community informed of project activities that impact them and be contactable.

## **What will the highway between Berry and Bomaderry look like when complete?**

The final design for the highway upgrade is complete. The upgrade includes four lanes of divided highway, two lanes in each direction, that will improve road safety and traffic efficiency.

A short animation of the project can be viewed at [www.rms.nsw.gov.au/BBU](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/BBU)

## **Why will the highway be four lanes?**

A four lane highway with improved bends will reduce traffic delays and improve safety and traffic flow. A four lane highway will also improve road transport capacity to cater for future traffic growth and the needs of the growing populations of Berry, Bomaderry and the surrounding areas.

## **How were the locations for the three overpasses determined?**

The three overpasses for the project, at Jaspers Brush Road and Strongs Road, Morschels Lane and Devitts Lane, and Pestells Lane and Meroo Road, are regularly spaced to provide an equitable level of access for the wider community between Berry and Bomaderry.

## **What is being proposed to ensure safe access to and from Croziers Road before and during construction?**

We have reviewed the Croziers Road and Princes Highway intersection and identified additional work to improve accessibility for motorists before and during construction of the highway upgrade.

The following work is underway at the Croziers Road intersection and will be completed in February 2018:

- remove vegetation on the northern and southern sides of the Croziers Road intersection, improving sight lines and visibility for motorists in each direction
- relocate signage that may impact the visibility of vehicles entering Croziers Road from the Princes Highway, including the truck turning sign
- relocate signage that may impact the visibility of vehicles entering the Princes Highway from Croziers Road, including the project information sign to the north of the intersection

- Install a larger 80km/h speed zone sign and relocate it in front of the power pole to improve visibility
- Install additional 80km/h speed zones approaching the intersection from the north

We are reviewing additional road safety options and will inform those impacted as soon as a preferred approach is known.

Any additional road safety option will be temporary and further traffic changes will occur while construction of the highway upgrade near the Croziers Road intersection is carried out. Details of traffic changes during construction, including when they will occur, will be finalised once the construction contractor has been announced and take into consideration the new location of the intersection and the five metre difference in vertical level.

We will continue to keep local residents informed of project work that may impact on them and thank you for your patience during this important work.

### **What is being proposed to ensure safe access to and from Croziers Road once the highway upgrade is complete?**

When the highway upgrade is completed the access arrangements at Croziers Road will be:

- traffic from the south would be able to make a left turn into Croziers Road, as it can now.
- traffic exiting from Croziers Road would be able to turn left onto the Princes Highway to travel north, as it can now.
- traffic from the north would be able to turn right into Croziers Road, as it can now. A protected right turn bay would be constructed to make this movement safer.
- traffic exiting from Croziers Road would no longer be able to turn right onto the Princes Highway to travel south. Right turn restrictions are proposed at all local road intersections along the upgrade. Motorists will need to travel to the Mullers Lane u-turn facility or the Schofields Lane underpass to turnaround and travel south.

### **How will the project improve safety and reduce accidents?**

A key objective of the Berry to Bomaderry Princes Highway upgrade is to improve road safety along the upgraded section of highway. Once completed, the highway upgrade would incorporate features that would address causes of the recent vehicle accidents on this section of the highway. These safety features include:

- a divided carriageway would reduce the likelihood of head on collisions
- less curves, improved road shoulders and line marking would reduce the likelihood of run off road crashes. In addition, barriers would also reduce the risk of this crash type

- prevention of right turns to driveway accesses by median separation and the provision of protected right turn bays at limited side roads would reduce the risk of rear end impacts.

### **How are Roads and Maritime minimising impacts to residential areas, such as near the Princes Highway and Cambewarra Road roundabout in Bomaderry?**

There will be some impacts to residents near the Princes Highway and Cambewarra Road roundabout in Bomaderry and managing these impacts during and after construction is essential.

As of early 2018, clearing work is being carried out behind some properties in preparation for construction of the highway upgrade between Berry and Bomaderry. This work includes the relocation of utility services and is not necessarily indicative of the location for the new highway. These utility relocations have commenced and are due to be completed in coming months.

We are working to reduce impacts of the highway upgrade to local residents during construction and when the new highway is open to traffic.

- **Noise** - a noise and vibration study was completed during the environmental assessment of the project. As a result, we will construct a low noise pavement surface. This surface will help to reduce noise impacts. The noise study completed as part of the project development identified some properties requiring work to assist in reducing the minimise the impact of noise. Identified properties have been contacted.. An additional assessment will be done after the project is completed.
- **Lighting** - street lighting will be located in the centre of the new highway at the southern end of the project and will include special fittings that will provide optimal visibility for highway traffic and prevent light extending beyond the highway. Some additional lighting will be provided at side road intersections on the upgraded section of the Princes Highway.

Work to upgrade the roundabout at Cambewarra Road is complete. The upgrade work involved building a left turn “slip” lane for motorists turning out of Moss Vale Road that are travelling north on the Princes Highway. It also included building an additional lane on the northern side of the roundabout for motorists exiting Moss Vale Road and either travelling south on the Princes Highway or east on Cambewarra Road.

### **Was a bypass of Bomaderry considered?**

In September 2016, the NSW Government published the Princes Highway Corridor Strategy, which sets out the Government’s 20 year plan to manage and guide the development of the road corridor to improve safety, traffic efficiency and sustainability. The strategy was prepared by a multidisciplinary team from Transport for NSW and Roads and Maritime Services with expertise in road safety, traffic, asset management, land use, environment, planning and development. The strategy sets out short term, medium term, and long term priorities to manage the highway.

The strategy recognises Bomaderry and Nowra as key areas with traffic congestion issues on the Princes Highway. The most significant activity in the short term to improve traffic flow through Bomaderry and Nowra is to complete planning and commence construction of the Nowra bridge project.

Medium and long term priorities are also identified in the strategy and include continuing to manage traffic issues within Nowra and Bomaderry.

Detailed traffic modelling is currently underway and the results of this work will provide valuable information on the current and future performance of key intersections through this town centre and the impact of population growth and proposed work on the Princes Highway.

You can read the full Corridor Strategy document on our website at [www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/corridor-strategies](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/south-coast/corridor-strategies)

## **During Construction**

### **What will the construction hours be?**

Standard NSW construction hours are as follows:

- 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday
- 8am to 1pm Saturday
- No work on Sundays and public holidays

Out of hours work, such as night work, will be required where construction activities would otherwise severely impact traffic flow or stakeholders. We will inform affected local residents and stakeholders seven days before starting night work activities.

### **Will highway access be impacted during construction?**

Access from Berry to Bomaderry on the Princes Highway will continue throughout construction. There will be some impacts and delays on the highway and adjoining local roads during construction, we will work to keep impacts to a minimum especially during peak traffic periods.

### **How will traffic be impacted during construction?**

Temporary detours and lane closures may be required. Local residents will be notified of any traffic changes.

Construction activities and vehicle movements during peak holiday periods will be planned to minimise impacts on the local roads and the Princes Highway.

Traffic changes will be communicated to motorists through electronic message signs and [livetraffic.com](http://livetraffic.com).

### **Will there be increased noise on the highway during and after construction?**

Detailed assessments that were carried out to predict potential noise, vibration and light impacts of the project during construction and when open to traffic

During construction, practical steps will be used to minimise noise including switching engines off when not in use, keeping machinery well maintained and scheduling of work taking into consideration school and public holidays.

Once in operation, ongoing noise reduction measures for traffic noise will include work on properties where appropriate, landscaping and low noise pavement surface.

### Stay in touch

For further information about this project contact:

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