

Extended Working Hours along Frenchs Forest Road, Naree Road and Forest Way - Fact Sheet

Approval granted for extended working hours

Roads and Maritime Services' delivery partner, Ferrovial York Joint Venture (FYJV) has been consulting with residents and businesses in the area about working extended weekend hours along Frenchs Forest Road, Naree Road and Forest Way.

Working extended hours will allow us to reduce the number of high noise night shifts needed during weekdays, allow more flexibility and ensure work in the area finishes sooner, in time for the hospital opening.

During consultation, a large majority of community members supported the extended working hours proposal. The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) has also reviewed and approved the proposal. Roads and Maritime will now implement extended weekend working hours along Frenchs Forest Road, Forest Way and Naree Road **until the end of June 2018**, weather permitting.

The rolling program of extended weekend work will be carried out from **Saturday 21 April to Saturday 30 June**, weather permitting. The extended hours will be between **1pm and 6pm on Saturdays** and **8am and 5pm on Sundays**.

The **new work hours** approved by the EPA are:

- **working Monday to Friday between 6am and 7am**
(this additional hour is only required for some stabilisation work)
- **working on Saturday afternoons between 1pm and 6pm**
- **working Sundays between 8am and 5pm.**

Construction activities and locations will vary, and work will include:

- drainage work
- relocating utilities and services
- installing kerb and footpaths
- removing asphalt
- stabilising and compacting the road base
- reinstating the road
- landscaping.

There will be a rolling schedule of work so each Sunday crews will alternate and work either to the west or east of Wakehurst Parkway to give residents' respite. We will carry out work in continuous three hour blocks with a minimum one hour respite from activities and work between each block.

Work updates and notification about specific work activities will be distributed as required.

The work will involve the use of machinery which may generate some noise and vibration. However, the extended working hours will enable more flexibility as well as other benefits including:

- increasing work efficiency by using the available daylight hours on the weekends and times when the roads are quieter
- working full days on Saturday with the extended hours into the afternoon
- reducing the number of high noise activities occurring during night work along Frenchs Forest Road
- mitigating potential disruptions to construction work as a result of wet weather.

The EPA assessed the community agreement

Noise modelling results, which show the expected noise levels during Saturday and Sunday work, and details of the community consultation were provided to the EPA for assessment.

The finding of the community agreement was that the majority of residents were in favour of extending the working hours, with 87 per cent of the community in favour of the extended hours. The EPA balanced the community views with the noise assessment and has approved the application.

FYJV will continue to engage with residents about the extended work hours, including those that were not in favour of the proposal. The residents opposing the proposal were interspersed throughout the survey area and not clustered in any particular location.

Noise

Roads and Maritime understands that noise and vibration during road construction can be a source of disruption for residents living near a construction project. We are committed to finding the right balance between minimising the impact to residents and completing road construction for the wider community.

The project team is committed to minimising construction noise, wherever possible, and providing mitigation measures for affected residents.

Construction noise is managed in accordance with the Environmental Protection Licence (EPL) and the Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan. The EPL requires that all reasonable and practical measures are taken to minimise construction noise.

A range of noise mitigation measures are used for the Northern Beaches Hospital road upgrade including:

- placing noise shields around equipment
- carrying out noise activities before midnight, where possible
- monitoring noise during night work
- testing, servicing and maintaining equipment
- notifying residents near the work, in advance
- limiting high noise work to three nights per week and providing respite nights for residents
- providing alternative accommodation for residents where appropriate.

Vibration

The project has established safe working distances to prevent vibration causing damage to homes and buildings, and to minimise disturbance to residents. Vibration work is done at levels below those that may risk structural (building) damage.

Some people may be able to feel or perceive vibration at lower levels that would not lead to building damage. Vibration is sometimes noticed by glasses rattling in cupboards or cabinets.

When compaction work is being carried out near your property, vibration may be felt in a home or building. Vibration may cause some discomfort for a short time. However, due to careful planning the risk of structural impact is very low.

Compaction work on site will include vibratory rolling techniques, which means some vibration may be felt in the ground when in close proximity to the work. This may also be felt in nearby homes on occasions. Please refer to the attached **Vibration Fact Sheet** for further information.

The Construction Noise and Vibration Management Plan which forms part of the Construction Environmental Management Plan for the Northern Beaches Hospital road upgrade Stage 1 Project is available on our website by visiting www.rms.nsw.gov.au/nbh