

Sydney Harbour Bridge

Community update Cycleway Access Proposals

November 2017



Artists impression of the proposed southern cycleway

The NSW Government is investing in projects to modernise and improve access to the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

The Sydney Harbour Bridge connects our city from north to south and provides an important link to thousands of commuters and sightseers every day.

On average, around 2,000 cyclist trips are taken across the Sydney Harbour Bridge cycleway on weekdays, making it the most heavily used cycleway in the Sydney metropolitan area. The cycleway is identified as a strategic cycle route connecting the Sydney CBD and the Lower North Shore.

Roads and Maritime Services is proposing to improve accessibility to the cycleway at both the northern and southern ends by:

- providing step-free access for cyclists at the northern end of the cycleway by constructing an elevated ramp at Milsons Point
- providing a dedicated connection for cyclists from the Sydney Harbour Bridge cycleway to the Kent Street cycleway, and an improved cyclist and pedestrian bridge over the Cahill Expressway with new approach ramps.

Community consultation now open

Roads and Maritime is seeking community and stakeholder feedback on the proposals for the Sydney Harbour Bridge southern and northern cycleway access improvements.

Southern cycleway improvement

A Review of Environmental Factors has been prepared to examine the potential impact of the southern cycleway connection, new bridge and ramp proposal.

Northern cycleway improvement

An options report has been prepared to help determine the best design option to progress to the next stage of development for a ramp at the northern end of the cycleway. The proposals are open for community feedback by **15 December 2017**.



Artist's impression of the proposed northern cycle ramp.

Sydney Harbour Bridge Cycleway

Artist's impression of the proposed southern cycleway connection (looking south).

Sydney Harbour Bridge northern cycle ramp

At the northern end of the cycleway, cyclists are required to stop, dismount and climb/descend 55 steps, near Burton Street.

- the steps limit access to the cycleway
- create a pinchpoint in the cycle network
- can provide a safety hazard if cyclists choose to ride down the steps
- can lead to queuing across a pedestrian path during peak traffic times.

Roads and Maritime is proposing to provide step-free access by constructing an elevated ramp connecting to the cycleway.

The key objectives of the proposal include:

- improving access to the Sydney Harbour Bridge cycleway
- improving safety for cyclists, pedestrians and motorists
- supporting future growth in cyclists travelling between the Sydney CBD, the Lower North Shore and beyond
- providing a cycleway facility that fits in with the:
 - context of the location, including the potential visibility of the structure
 - heritage values of the area
 - architectural qualities of the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Options

Seven alignment options for a ramp were initially considered but four of these did not meet current design standards and were not considered further. Workshops with key stakeholders assessed different design alignment

options based on evaluation criteria linked to functionality, heritage, environmental impact and constructability.

Structural form options were also evaluated based on built outcomes and constructability.

Preferred alignment option



Proposed northern ramp alignment of preferred option.

A preferred alignment option was unanimously recommended as it would:

- offer the best value-for-money outcome
- minimise disruption to the cycleway during construction
- be the most-likely to gain heritage and environmental approval.

Three structural form options were recommended to progress for further investigation and development based on the evaluation criteria. The options were:

- shaped beam
- torsion beam
- banana beam.

More information on the evaluation of options is included in the Options Report.

Sydney Harbour Bridge southern cycleway

Roads and Maritime is working with City of Sydney Council on this proposal. The new cycleway connection which would join the southern end of the existing Sydney Harbour Bridge cycleway to create a purpose built connection to the cyclist network on Kent Street. The connection would remove the need for cyclists to share public roads and footpaths between the bridge and Kent Street.

Key features and benefits

Key features of the proposal include:

- a dedicated two-way cycleway connection from the Kent Street cycleway to the Sydney Harbour Bridge cycleway
- removing the existing steep shared-use bridge with a sharp turn over the Cahill Expressway and construction of a new cycle and pedestrian bridge with improved width and sight lines
- approach ramps to the new cyclist and pedestrian bridge with easier gradients and sight lines.

The main benefits of the proposal include:

- improved safety for cyclists, pedestrians and motorists
- supporting future growth in cyclist traffic travelling between Sydney CBD, the Lower North Shore and beyond
- provide a modern, safe design that fits in with the significant heritage values of the area and architectural qualities of the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Visit: rms.nsw.gov.au/shb-cycle to see a video of the proposed new cycle connections

Heritage

The proposed work falls outside the National Heritage Listing and State Heritage Register areas for the Sydney Harbour Bridge, so would not directly impact its national, state and local heritage values. The proposed work would enhance the accessibility and functionality of the existing cycleway on the bridge, in line with the *Sydney Harbour Bridge Conservation Management Plan (2007)*.

The proposal would have direct and indirect physical and visual impacts on other heritage items. The impacts would be restricted to small areas within the work area and could be partially offset by the proposed mitigation measures. More information on the potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures are contained in the Review of Environmental Factors.

Traffic and transport

The proposed work would take about 10 months to complete. During construction, detours would be in place for cyclists travelling between the Kent Street and Sydney Harbour Bridge cycleways. At times closures of the Cahill Expressway and on-ramp to the Bradfield Highway would be required. Traffic would be diverted to alternate routes during the closure and work would be done during non-peak periods.

To reduce impact on traffic, the proposed working hours for the proposal would involve a combination of day work, night work including work on weekends, and 24-hour continuous work during road closure periods. More information on the proposed work schedule and construction hours is contained in the Review of Environmental Factors.

Have your say

Roads and Maritime is seeking community and stakeholder feedback on the:

- Options Report for the Sydney Harbour Bridge northern cycleway ramp
- Review of Environmental Factors and concept design for the Sydney Harbour Bridge southern cycleway connection.

Written comments should be sent by

15 December 2017 to:

Email: sydneyharbourbridgeprojects@rms.nsw.gov.au

Mail: Sydney Harbour Bridge Cycleway Projects
Roads and Maritime Services
PO Box 973
Parramatta CBD NSW 2124

Interactive online map

Visit the project web page to submit comments directly onto our interactive map and see what others in the community have to say about the proposal at www.rms.nsw.gov.au/shb-consult.


Community information drop in sessions

We will host a community information session, where you can speak to members of the project team and view project designs and reports.

A formal presentation will not be provided, so please drop in at any time:

Northern end

30 November 2017
6pm – 8pm
Bradfield Park Community Centre
41 Alfred St South
Milsons Point NSW 2061



If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 1800 703 457.

Display locations

The Review of Environmental Factors for the southern cycleway connection is available to view in person at:

City of Sydney Council

Town Hall House, 456 Kent Street, Sydney.

The Options Report for the northern cycleway ramp is available to view in person at:

North Sydney Council

200 Miller Street, North Sydney.

You can also view or download both reports online at rms.nsw.gov.au/shb-cycle

What happens next

All comments received will be considered in finalising the proposal.

The report summarising community comments relating to the Sydney Harbour Bridge southern cycleway Review of Environmental Factors, including a response to each comment will be available early next year.

Feedback received on the Sydney Harbour Bridge northern ramp will be reviewed and considered as we move into the detailed design stage of the proposal. The feedback will also be summarised in a consultation report which will be published next year.

We will continue to keep the community updated on the progress of both proposals.

Contact us

For more information or to provide feedback, please contact the project team:



1800 581 595



sydneyharbourbridgeprojects@rms.nsw.gov.au



www.rms.nsw.gov.au/sydneyharbourbridge



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