Beaches Link

Temporary construction site at Willoughby

Beaches Link is a major transport infrastructure project that makes it easier, faster and safer to get around Sydney.

As Sydney continues to grow, our transport challenge also increases.

While we actively manage Sydney’s daily traffic demands and major new public transport initiatives are underway, it’s clear that even more must be done.

Beaches Link is a new tunnel from the Northern Beaches, under Middle Harbour to connect with the Warringah and Gore Hill Freeways.

Beaches Link will forever change travel between the Northern Beaches, the North Shore and west and south of the Harbour. It will change the way people move around Sydney.

Beaches Link will deliver a major step change for buses, reducing travel times and improving reliability of express bus services by re-directing them into the new motorway.

The project also creates opportunities for more direct and reliable express buses between strategic centres in the Northern Beaches, North Shore, North Sydney (with direct access to Sydney Metro and Sydney Trains) and the Sydney CBD.

This includes the opportunity to introduce new express buses to strategic employment and education centres including the new Northern Beaches Hospital Precinct. Thanks to this major project, people will spend less time in traffic and have more time for themselves.

You can contact us at any time to learn more about the project or to provide your feedback.

Information on the proposed reference design is now available at www.rms.nsw.gov.au/whtbl

A temporary construction site is proposed in the Willoughby area to support Beaches Link tunnelling.

Two potential options have been identified:
- The base case in the reference design is the Flat Rock Baseball Diamond, adjacent to Flat Rock Drive
- In consultation with Council, an alternate site has been identified on the opposite side of Flat Rock Drive.

Only one of these two sites is required. Roads and Maritime Services will work with Council, the community and stakeholders to determine the preferred location of the temporary construction site.

The NSW Government has now released the proposed project reference design, and there will be extensive community and stakeholder engagement over the coming months.

We now want to hear what you think about the proposed reference design including the construction site options for Flat Rock Drive.

Your feedback will help us further refine the design before we seek planning approval.

There will be further extensive community engagement once the Environmental Impact Statement is on public display.
Option A: Flat Rock Baseball Diamond

This is the primary, temporary tunnelling site south of Middle Harbour. Tunnelling would proceed in both directions from this site.

Option A is located at the current Flat Rock Baseball Diamond, adjacent to Flat Rock Drive.

Key activities
- Entry site for roadheader machines tunnelling north, south and west
- Beaches Link tunnel fit-out
- Tunnel spoil removal by truck directly onto Flat Rock Drive to the Warringah Freeway.

Reducing our impact
- We will work with Willoughby Council and local sports clubs to minimise the impact on sporting activities in the area while it is unavailable during construction
- No impact to Willoughby Leisure Centre indoor facilities, netball courts or car park
- Shared user path remains open for the duration of construction
- Opportunity for major refurbishment of the area following construction
- Single large site in a strategic location reduces the need for additional intermediate sites
- Allows road access directly off Flat Rock Drive to keep trucks off local streets
- No direct impact to private properties
- Acoustic shed for tunnelling works to contain noise and dust.
Option B: Flat Rock Drive

This is the primary, temporary tunnelling site south of Middle Harbour. Tunnelling would proceed in both directions from this site.

Option B is located near Flat Rock Drive in an area re-vegetated by Willoughby Council over the last 20 years.

Key activities
- Entry site for roadheader machines tunnelling north, south and west
- Beaches Link tunnel fit-out
- Tunnel spoil removal by truck directly onto Flat Rock Drive to the Warringah Freeway.

Reducing our impact
- Impact on bushland is limited to an area that has been re-vegetated by Willoughby Council over the last 20 years
- Shared user path to be re-routed and remain open during construction
- Opportunity to provide new recreation facilities, or re-vegetate the site post-construction. We will work with Willoughby Council on the final form of the site in consultation with the community
- No impact to baseball diamond, Willoughby Leisure Centre indoor facilities, netball courts or car park
- Single large site in strategic location reduces the need for additional intermediate sites
- Allows road access directly off Flat Rock Drive to keep trucks off local streets
- No direct impact to private properties
- Acoustic shed for tunnelling works to contain noise and dust.
Next steps

Preliminary planning
2015 - 2017

Initial design
March 2017

State Significant Infrastructure Application
November 2017

Proposed reference design

Community engagement
second half 2018

Environmental assessment

Seek planning approval

Construction

Open to traffic

You can contact us at any time to learn more about the project or to provide your feedback.

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Customer feedback
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