

Transport for NSW

# Albion Park Rail bypass

Project update | July 2021



New motorway between Yallah and Albion Park

A section of the motorway between Yallah and Albion Park was opened to traffic in May.

This section of the motorway provides temporary access to and from Albion Park as we continue work on the bypass at the southern end of the project.

As part of these changes, the Illawarra Highway was permanently closed to through traffic.

Construction of the new cul-de-sac on the Illawarra Highway near Croome Lane is underway and work on the shared path next to the new motorway has also started.

This significant milestone was the first stage of the project's progressive opening. With the project on track for completion twelve months early, the community will soon be enjoying the benefits of the new bypass.

## What we've been doing

Work since April has included:

- continuing with pavement construction, laying asphalt and line marking
- repairing the road pavement and reopening Croome Road
- completing the noise mound along the new motorway between Croome Road and Durgadin Drive
- continuing drainage, signage, street lighting, traffic signals and barriers
- continuing with landscaping and revegetating.

## Albion Park interchange at Tongarra Road

Pavement work is underway on Tongarra Road. The concrete medians are being built and the new traffic lights will be installed soon.

The exit ramp will be in a temporary arrangement when the northbound motorway lanes open soon. A temporary left turn will be provided for motorists exiting the motorway.

The entry ramp will be ready to open with the new southbound motorway lanes in the coming months.

Until then, Albion Park motorists will continue to use Tongarra Road and the existing Princes Highway to travel to and from Shellharbour and Kiama. The new traffic lights will allow motorists to safely enter the motorway from Tongarra Road to travel south. It will also allow motorists to safely exit the motorway when travelling north at Tongarra Road.

Some of this work occurs at night with stop/slow traffic control and closures of Tongarra Road. Electronic signs are in place in advance and detours are clearly signposted during the closures.



Artist impression of Tongarra Road entry and exit ramps looking north



Artist impression of Tongarra Road looking east



Artist impression of the Oak Flats interchange

## Oak Flats interchange

The current arrangement of the Oak Flats interchange is an interim step while construction continues. When new traffic lights are installed at intersections with large traffic volumes, adjustments to the phasing of traffic lights to ensure traffic can flow smoothly can take time. We appreciate your patience while we have worked to adjust this phasing.

Video and physical monitoring has been in place to modify the sequence of traffic light changes. Substantial improvements have been made during peak times since the traffic lights were installed. When the bypass opens fully, traffic travelling from the north that currently uses the Oak Flats interchange, will enter the interchange using the M1 Princes Motorway, this will help balance the traffic flow in peak periods.

The traffic lights reduce the interaction of traffic, improve safety and reduce the potential for conflicts. At peak times it was hard to find a gap in traffic to safely merge.

## Upcoming traffic changes

There will be a number of traffic changes as the project progressively opens to traffic this year.

This allows parts of the bypass to be used while the remaining work is carried out.

Earthworks is almost complete at the southern end of the project and pavement is being placed on the new motorway.

The northbound lanes of the new motorway will open soon, with the southbound lanes to follow.

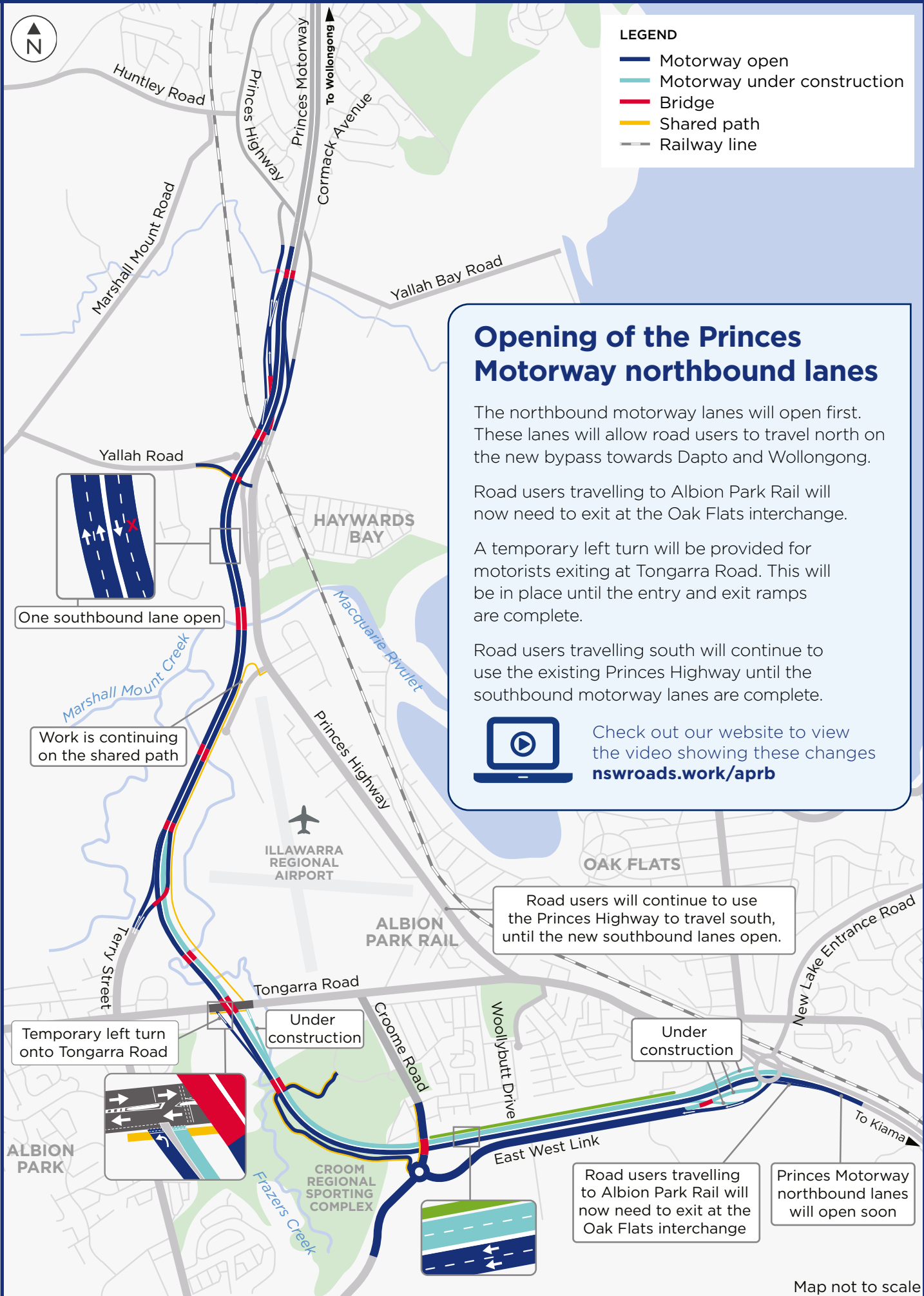
Work is also continuing on the ramps that connect the Oak Flats interchange with the new motorway and East West Link. These are on track to be complete in the coming months.

Video and physical monitoring will be in place to monitor the performance of the traffic lights at the Oak Flats interchange when the northbound lanes open to traffic. It may take some time to match the traffic light phasing to the traffic in the area. There may be some delays as we make these adjustments.

View the [maps](#) for more information about these changes.



# Opening of the Princes Motorway northbound lanes



## Opening of the Princes Motorway northbound lanes

The northbound motorway lanes will open first. These lanes will allow road users to travel north on the new bypass towards Dapto and Wollongong.

Road users travelling to Albion Park Rail will now need to exit at the Oak Flats interchange.

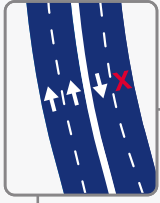
A temporary left turn will be provided for motorists exiting at Tongarra Road. This will be in place until the entry and exit ramps are complete.

Road users travelling south will continue to use the existing Princes Highway until the southbound motorway lanes are complete.



Check out our website to view the video showing these changes [nswroads.work/aprb](https://nswroads.work/aprb)

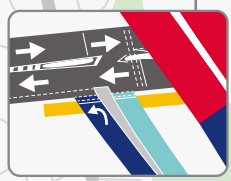
One southbound lane open



Work is continuing on the shared path

Road users will continue to use the Princes Highway to travel south, until the new southbound lanes open.

Temporary left turn onto Tongarra Road

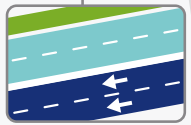


Under construction

Under construction

Road users travelling to Albion Park Rail will now need to exit at the Oak Flats interchange

Princes Motorway northbound lanes will open soon



## Community event

On Saturday 19 June we welcomed the community to celebrate the upcoming opening of the Albion Park Rail bypass.

Community members joined a local Aboriginal Elder, Members of Parliament, the Mayor and representatives from Transport for NSW and Fulton Hogan for a walk along a section of the newly completed motorway.

Despite the wet and windy weather, the community enjoyed the walk, entertainment, project displays and the sausage sizzle hosted by local primary schools and Rotary.

The event also provided an opportunity for the NSW Government and Transport for NSW to thank the local community for their patience during construction.



# Community information session

In May an information session was held for the community to find out more about the project and meet members of the project team. The team spoke with 67 community members about the project, with most people interested in the upcoming traffic changes and traffic lights at Oak Flats interchange. We'd like to thank those that attended.



Community information session held on 6 May 2021



The project's urban design considers the heritage and cultural values of the local community. When the new motorway opens, you will see a 'wing' under the bridge into Albion Park. This feature is made of corten steel and will have a weathered appearance. This design feature represents the importance of the local airport.

## Contact us

If you have any questions or would like more information on the Albion Park bypass project please contact our project team on:



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nswroads.work/aprb



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