



Community update | Winter 2022

# Barton Highway upgrade

The Barton Highway is an essential part of the NSW and ACT transport network, connecting communities to essential services, employment, healthcare, education opportunities and supporting freight movement. The upgrade, funded by the Australian Government and NSW Government, aims to improve safety for all transport customers, while enhancing tourism, driving economic growth and creating vibrant regional spaces.



Trucks deliver gravel for the northbound lanes of duplication.

## What we're doing

Despite significant rainfall, work is progressing on the first stage of duplication of the Barton Highway upgrade.

Since February we have:

- completed 132,500m<sup>3</sup> of general earthworks
- placed 24,000m<sup>3</sup> of quality fill
- completed the remaining boundary fencing work
- applied 58,660m<sup>3</sup> of topsoil and hydromulch, including a local seed mix, tailored for the area
- started work on Church Lane and Rolfe Road intersections
- continued road intersection upgrade work at Briarwood Lane, Spring Range and Nanima roads
- continued excavation work to improve local drainage
- installed 1387 metres of stormwater drainage pipes
- completed a gravel base trial.



Improving safety



Reduced travel times



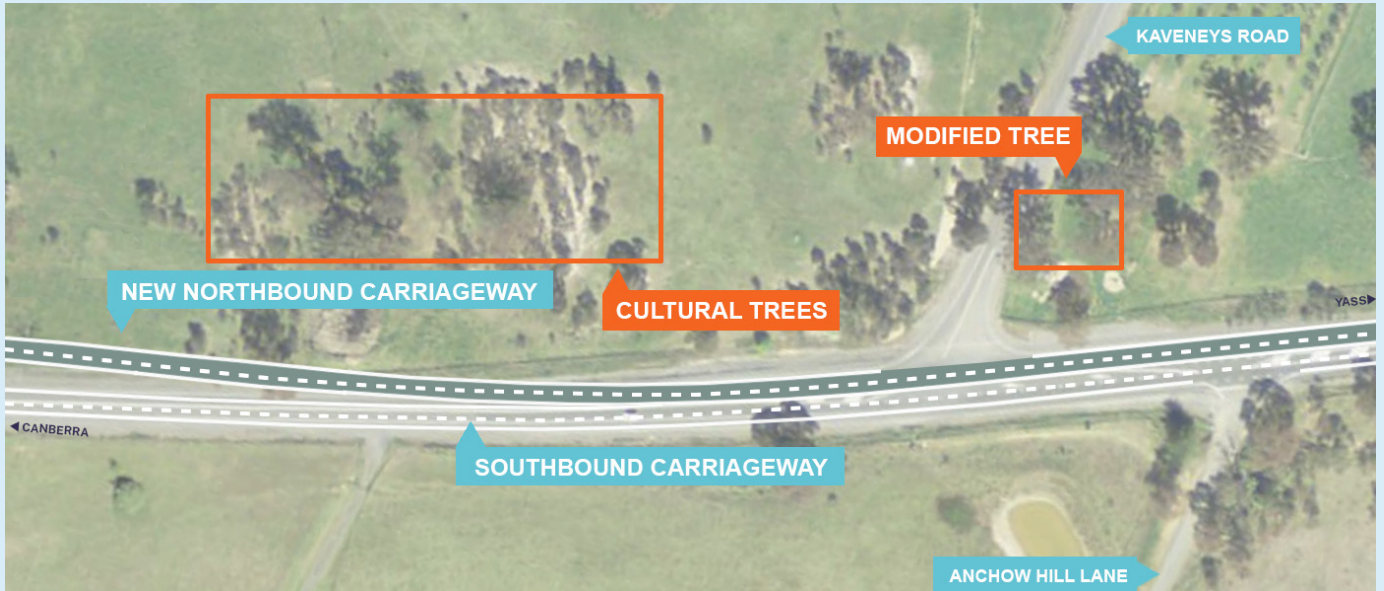
Boost freight productivity

# Upcoming work

In coming months, we will be:

- installing the next section of stabilising gravel base material after a successful trial
- continuing bulk earthwork for the new two-lane northbound carriageway
- continuing stormwater drainage pipe installations

- continuing the upgrade of Church Lane, Rolfe Road and Boundary Lane intersections
- finalising the upgrade of Briarwood Lane, Spring Range and Nanima roads
- continuing topsoiling and hydroseeding work
- starting placement of the road surface on the new northbound carriageway.



The alignment near Kaveney's Road has been redesigned to ensure no impacts to a group of cultural trees.

## New alignment near Kaveney's Road to protect cultural trees

In January 2021, a cluster of trees was identified to us near Kaveney's Road. Most of the trees were sitting in an area which would have been impacted by the new duplicated lanes. Upon discovery, we paused work for further investigations to be carried out in consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) and other specialists.

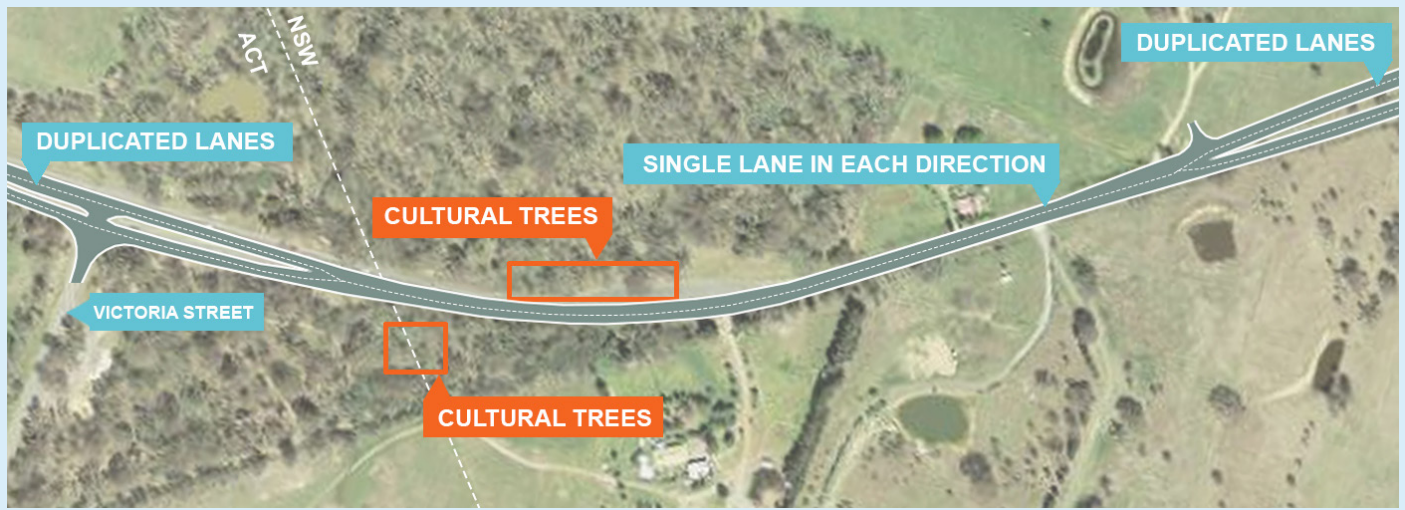
Consultation has since concluded with the trees being confirmed as culturally significant trees.

In December 2021, Transport acknowledged the importance of the trees of significance to the community and committed to protecting the group.

We have redesigned the alignment as shown in the map above so all identified trees remain unimpacted. Stage 1 will now stop before Kaveney's Road intersection. The intersection will be constructed in Stage 2 to allow further time for detailed design, consultation and planning.



View of the Kaveney's Road intersection from the north west towards the Barton Highway. Stage 1 of duplication will stop before Kaveney's Road intersection.



The interim tie-in design at the ACT-NSW border.

## Interim tie-in to allow for further planning work

We are continuing to work with relevant stakeholders about a group of cultural trees on the ACT/NSW border.

We remain committed to ensuring best possible outcomes for the community, environment and safety of transport customers.

As a result of concerns raised with the current alignment plans in this area, we will be completing a temporary tie-in, in order to ensure the remainder of the Stage 1 duplicated highway is able to be used by the community in coming months.

**We remain committed to ensuring the best possible outcomes for the community, environment and safety of transport customers.**



Ring trees have been identified on the west and east of the current Barton Highway footprint.

## Core drainage work is complete

Drainage throughout the core area of duplication on the northern carriageway is complete.

There are some minor areas to be finished, including the tie-ins on the northern and southern ends. Box culvert lines and some pipe culvert lines have been installed in local waterways, and contain environmental controls to manage and regularly monitor sediment and run-off.

To date we have installed 1387 metres of concrete precast drainage pipes and a total of 242 metres of precast box culverts over four locations. About 324m<sup>3</sup> of concrete has been installed for the culvert base units and the headwalls at the end of each drainage line.

A range of techniques have been used throughout the project to divert clean water from upstream of the construction work to downstream areas, ensuring clean water passes the construction site. The techniques include temporary pipelines, diversion channels and bypass pumps.



Drainage work has been completed under the new northern carriageway at Gooromon Ponds.

# Come and see us at this year's Murrumbateman Field Days

The Murrumbateman Field Days are Yass Valley's premier agricultural event. This year, it will be held on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 October after a two-year break and Transport for NSW is excited to return and participate.



The Barton Highway upgrade will have a marquee at the event, where our team will be available to answer your questions about Stage 1 construction progress and upcoming work, as well as Stage 2 early planning and progress.

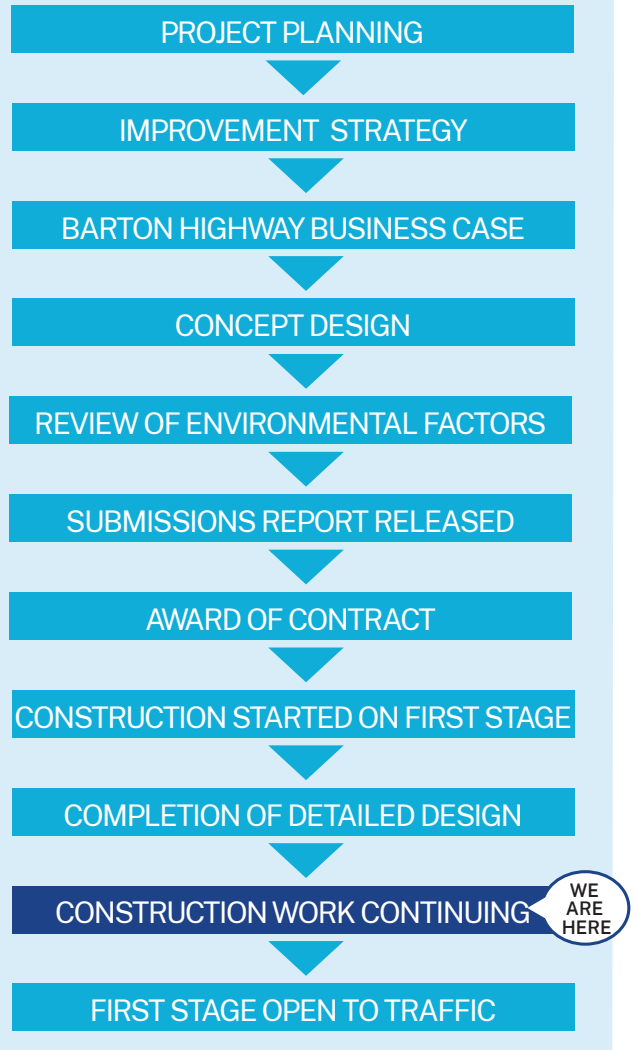
Pop in and say hello between the live entertainment, lifestyle and home improvement exhibits, local produce and wine tasting. Click or scan the QR code to go to the event website for more info.



## Gravel placement from the sky

Check out these bird's eye views of the new northbound lanes taking shape. The dirt is slowly transformed with gravel in readiness for an asphalt seal in coming months.

## Barton Highway upgrade Stage 1 project timeline



Visitors at Transport's Barton Highway upgrade marquee in 2019.

## Contact us

If you have any questions or would like more information about the Barton Highway upgrade please contact our project team:

-  1800 931 250 (toll free)
-  [barton.highway@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:barton.highway@transport.nsw.gov.au)
-  PO Box 484, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650
-  [nswroads.work/barton](http://nswroads.work/barton)



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 931 250.



The Transport for NSW Stage 2 project team reviews the project footprint in July.

## Safety is key during Stage 2 workshop

The Barton Highway corridor upgrade Stage 2 project team carried out a health and safety in design (HSiD) and constructability workshop in July.

We started with a group tour of the project footprint from south of Gooda Creek Road to Kaveney's Road to gain a better understanding of the landscape and project constraints.

Stage 1 project manager, Anthony Perera, also led a tour of the Stage 1 footprint to better understand some of the challenges it has faced during construction.

Key items discussed in the workshop included:

- construction and constraints
- staging options
- issues
- post-construction operation
- post-construction maintenance.

We are now continuing to work on the concept design and environmental impact assessment and aim to share the concept plan and Review of Environmental Factors with the community for feedback next year.

## Barton Highway website refresh

As we prepare to share our concept design and complete consultation as part of the Review of Environmental Factors, we have updated our website to have one home page followed by:

- Barton Highway Improvement Strategy
- Barton Highway Stage 1
- Barton Highway Stage 2.

## Barton Highway upgrade Stage 2 project timeline



WE ARE HERE



The Transport for NSW Stage 2 project team reviews the project footprint in July.

# Consultation starts on Stage 2 cultural heritage

Planning for Stage 2 of duplication continues to gear up, with Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) starting to get involved early.

Last month, RAPs were invited to join us at the Yarramundi Cultural Centre in Canberra to have a yarn, meet the project team, learn more about the project, ask questions and provide feedback to help us identify and minimise impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Cultural heritage is a priority for the project, with early involvement key to the best outcomes for Aboriginal heritage, the environment and community.

Thank you to those who were able to join us, both in person and online. We are now reviewing all feedback received and planning for our first Aboriginal Focus Group, where we will review and take feedback on the reports drafted to date as part of our 'Procedure for Aboriginal Culture, Heritage, Consultation and Investigation' which include:

- archaeological survey report
- archaeological test excavation methodology
- Aboriginal Cultural Values Assessment Project Draft Methodology.



Some of the beautiful artwork, views and fauna from the Yarramundi Cultural Centre.



Barton Highway Aboriginal Engagement Officer Des Smith is leading Aboriginal engagement on Stage 2.



Our Registered Aboriginal Parties were invited to a Stage 2 introduction at Canberra's Yarramundi Cultural Centre last month.



Members of the Barton Highway project development team are excited to have Stage 2 progressing.



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