



Australian Government

**BUILDING OUR FUTURE**



July 2020

# Frequently asked questions

## Ellerton Drive extension

What are the benefits of the Ellerton Drive extension?

The 4.6 kilometre Ellerton Drive extension provides an alternative route around the Queanbeyan CBD and connects east Queanbeyan to the new southern population growth areas.

Key benefits:

- Motorists will be able to avoid up to 19 intersections and at least three sets of traffic lights
- The speed limit will be 80 km/h, avoiding the 50 km/h sections of Queanbeyan CBD as well as school zones
- Helps to reduce traffic congestion and heavy vehicle movements in Queanbeyan CBD
- Up to a 35 per cent travel time saving compared to the existing route
- Provides an extra bridge crossing, built to withstand a one in 100 year flood event.

Will the new road cater for future increases in traffic volumes?

Traffic modelling was carried out taking into account known future growth in the Canberra and Queanbeyan region, as well as growth in the Googong area.

This traffic modelling has shown that Ellerton Drive with a single lane in each direction provides capacity for future growth. Some sections of the road include climbing lanes to provide overtaking opportunities at locations where heavy vehicles may be travelling at lower speeds.

What access will be provided from the Ellerton Drive extension to Greenleigh?

Based on feedback from Greenleigh residents in 2013, gated emergency vehicle access has been provided at the end of Lonergan Drive and next to Number 32 Severne Street (water reservoirs).

Pedestrians and cyclists will have access to the shared path along the Ellerton Drive extension via connections at the end of Lonergan Drive and next to Number 32 Severne Street (water reservoirs).

How do I enter and exit Barracks Flat Drive from the completed Ellerton Drive extension?

There is a road that connects the Ellerton Drive extension to Barracks Flat Drive next to number 74 Barracks Flat Drive. This road allows motorists travelling along Ellerton Drive to enter Barracks Flat Drive, it also provides access onto Ellerton Drive from Barracks Flat Drive to travel north towards Yass Road (East Queanbeyan).

This intersection does not allow a right turn out of Barracks Flat Drive for motorists wishing to travel south.

Motorists on Barracks Flat Drive heading south towards Old Cooma Road are able to access the Ellerton Drive extension via the on ramp near the new bridge.

## Are there any changes to bushland access?

The Ellerton Drive extension does not reduce or remove access to any public reserves. Much of the bushland east of Ellerton Drive extension is not for public use.

Bushland that is privately owned and not open for public access includes:

- Curtis Estate at the end of current Ellerton Drive
- Jumping Creek at the end of Lonergan Drive

The Crown Land surrounding White Rocks and Fairlane Estate is currently under a land claim. It is therefore treated as private property and public access is unable to be provided.

The bushland near the Council water reservoirs will be a registered biodiversity offset site and be permanently managed for conservation purposes into the future.

## Can I access White Rocks?

Community members will still have access to the public White Rocks area next to the river. Access will be via a trail near the traffic lights at Ellerton Drive and Old Cooma Road. For residents of Fairlane Estate, there are multiple off road shared path connections to side streets such as Alfred Place, Fitzgibbon Place, Webber Place and Barracks Flat Drive under the bridge, which lead to the traffic lights at Old Cooma Road for safe crossing.

## How will noise walls reduce noise impacts for residents?

Noise walls are a physical barrier or wall designed to help reduce noise impacts from traffic.

Noise walls have been installed at identified locations along the road to help reduce predicted noise. The walls along with a low noise road surface are being used to reduce the impact of noise.

Wall heights and materials are different for each location. The aim is to reduce noise levels to an acceptable level as required by the Environmental Protection Authority's (EPA) Road Noise Policy.

## Will the impact of road noise continue to be monitored?

A post construction noise assessment will be carried out within 12 months following the opening of the road.

This assessment will determine if the operational noise mitigation measures implemented as part of the project are performing as intended and if road traffic noise is consistent with predictions.

Impacted residents will be contacted directly if additional noise mitigation measures are required following the outcomes of the assessment.

## What will the speed limit be along Ellerton Drive?

The speed limit along most of Ellerton Drive will be 80 km/h. The speed limit on the existing section of Ellerton Drive will be increased from 50 km/h to 60 km/h, and a short section of Ellerton Drive near the intersection with Old Cooma Road will be signposted to 70 km/h.

## What are the traffic changes at the Edwin Land Parkway, Old Cooma Road and Ellerton Drive intersection?

Changes to the intersection at Edwin Land Parkway, Cooma Street and Ellerton Drive have involved connecting the new Ellerton Drive to the intersection. Traffic modelling has been carried out to consider peak traffic flows, future traffic increases and pedestrian movements at the intersection. The traffic lights are designed to cater for peak traffic flows and change in response to traffic volumes.

Transport for NSW will monitor traffic to assess the performance of the intersection and make changes to the lights if required.

### How will the increase in traffic through Jerrabomberra from the Ellerton Drive extension be managed?

The Ellerton Drive extension will have minimal impact on the traffic volumes along Edwin Land Parkway. It is expected the road will add about 500 vehicles per day to Jerrabomberra by 2031.

Traffic through Jerrabomberra is expected to increase significantly as a result of growth in Googong. Developments at South Jerrabomberra (including Poplars and Tralee) will add traffic volumes onto Tomsitt Drive.

### What changes will be made to the Jerrabomberra Circle (large roundabout)?

The latest traffic modelling indicates the Jerrabomberra Circle does not need upgrading before 2031. In 2015 Council reviewed the need to upgrade the intersection to traffic lights however based on community feedback it was decided not to proceed at this stage.

### Will there be any impact to Yass Road following opening the Ellerton Drive extension?

The Ellerton Drive extension is not expected to increase traffic on Yass Road. The road provides an alternate route around the Queanbeyan CBD for traffic already using the north/ south route between Cooma Street and Yass Road.

### Will there be an impact to the Kings Highway, Yass Road and Ellerton Drive roundabout?

Investigations, including traffic modelling, carried out at this roundabout indicate the extension of Ellerton Drive will not have a significant impact on the operation of the roundabout.

Transport for NSW currently has no plans to upgrade the roundabout, and the intersection will continue to be monitored for safety and traffic efficiency following the opening of the Ellerton Drive extension.

### Will there be any changes made to the roundabout at Old Sydney Road/ Mowatt Street?

There are currently no changes planned for this roundabout. While traffic volumes are expected to increase at this roundabout once the Ellerton Drive extension is opened to traffic, traffic modelling does not indicate upgrades are required. The design of the roundabout has catered for B-double trucks.

### What types of heavy vehicles can use the Ellerton Drive extension?

The new road will be open to general access heavy vehicles. This includes buses and trucks up to 12.5 metres in length, trucks with trailers and vehicles up to 19 metres in length.

### What will be the impact on Cooma Street and Monaro Street?

The Ellerton Drive extension will help to reduce congestion and the number of heavy vehicles travelling through the Queanbeyan CBD.

### I can still see work being carried out along the road. What is being done?

The project team will be carrying out completion and maintenance work after the road is open. There may be traffic impacts from time to time. Please follow posted speed limits and the direction of signage and traffic controllers for the safety of motorists and workers.

### More information

For enquiries about Ellerton Drive please contact QPRC via:  
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