

Gerringong upgrade

Princes Highway

Construction update (November 2014)



The new state
of business

Contractor: Fulton Hogan

Type of contract: Design and construct

Workers on site: Around 310 including Roads and Maritime Services, Fulton Hogan and subcontractors

Large plant on site: Around 90 including cranes, rock crushers, excavators, trucks and piling machines

Start of construction date: July 2012

Expected completion date: Mid 2015
(weather permitting)

Project value and funding: \$329 million
NSW State Government funding

Community


- Fulton Hogan supported and attended the 2014 Regional NAIDOC awards and one of Fulton Hogan's employees was nominated for worker of the year.

Environment

- The dry weather between May and July allowed construction to continue at a good pace. The recorded rainfall in August was over twice the annual average, with the wet weather impacts experienced into September.

Safety

- Safety is a key component of the project. There are around 800 safety inspections each month.

Wet weather and its impacts affected construction on 31 days in the past four months. 

Roads and Maritime Services is upgrading the Princes Highway between Mount Pleasant and Toolijooa Road. The \$329 million upgrade will provide 7.5 kilometres of upgraded highway and include two new interchanges with access to Gerringong and Gerroa. This work is funded by the NSW Government.

Fern Street railway overbridge

The Fern Street railway overbridge has been named Omega Bridge by Kiama Municipal Council's Street and Reserve Naming Committee.

The last segment of the bridge has been launched with construction of the road approaches now underway. The bridge is expected to be open to traffic in early 2015, weather permitting.

We have also begun planning a community event to occur before the bridge opens to traffic.



Last segment of Omega Bridge was launched in August 2014.

Traffic arrangements

There were numerous traffic changes between July and October to progress the highway upgrade that included:

- Motorists travelling on the upgraded northbound lanes between Mount Pleasant and north of Sims Road (July 2014).
- Motorists travelling on the upgraded northbound lanes between Toolijooa Road and Gerringong curves (July 2014).
- The closure of the southbound overtaking lane near Toolijooa Road and installation of protected right turn bays for property access (August 2014).
- Motorists travelling on the upgraded northbound lanes south of Belinda Street (August 2014).
- Motorists using a temporary intersection to access Rose Valley Road (September 2014).
- Further improvements were carried out at the temporary intersection of the Princes Highway and Fern Street.

The traffic changes have allowed for the highway upgrade to progress with around 80% of the northbound lanes open to traffic.



**For real time traffic information
visit www.livetraffic.com
or call 132 701**

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Changes to the noise wall design

As part of the highway upgrade, noise walls are being built along the eastern side of the Princes Highway adjacent to Burnett Avenue, Gerringong.

In response to community feedback, the height of the noise walls will be reduced from three metres to two metres. The noise walls will provide effective noise protection while minimising the visual impact for surrounding residents.

The noise walls will act as a buffer between the highway and directly affected residents by shielding properties from highway noise.

Construction of the noise walls is underway and will take around three months to complete, weather permitting.

The noise walls design change has also been included into the latest design poster. To view a copy and for more information please visit the project website www.rms.nsw.gov.au/gu



New highway adjacent to Burnett Avenue where new noise walls are being built (August 2014).

What else has happened to date?

- We have worked over 1 million hours and 925 days on the project.
- Around 450,000 tonnes of rock material excavated from the project site has been crushed onsite. This material is being reused to construct the new highway.
- Around 37,000 tonnes of asphalt has been used on the project.
- Fourteen of 28 bridge structures are complete.



NSW Premier Hon Mike Baird, Member for Kiama Gareth Ward MP, Member for South Coast Shelley Hancock MP and dignitaries visited the upgrade site.

In the next three months

- Install drainage and build the road around the Belinda Street interchange including changed traffic conditions and a night road closure.
- Build and open the remaining sections of the northbound lanes.
- Continue building sections of the southbound lanes.
- Build the road approaches to Omega Bridge.
- Continue to install bridge supports and decks on Omega Flat bridge.
- Continue excavation and crushing of rock and moving it to various site locations.

Construction hours

The project team sought feedback from the community about extending project working hours. Based on this feedback working hours from mid November will be:

- Monday to Friday between 6:30am and 7pm.
- Saturdays between 8am and 5pm.

Changes have been approved by the Environment Protection Authority and will allow the project team to take advantage of daylight savings. These hours will be in place until project completion. The changes to working hours will allow increased flexibility.



Come and visit the team

The community team attends the Gerringong markets the third Saturday of each month. Come and see us to discuss up-to-date information on the project and general construction enquiries.

For more information:

Phone: 1800 506 976 (toll free)

Email: gerringongupgrade@fultonhogan.com.au

Web: www.rms.nsw.gov.au/gu

Post: Gerringong upgrade, PO Box 364
Gerringong NSW 2534

Community display centre: Access via Sims Road, Gerringong. Open Mondays to Fridays 9am–5pm

Project office: Shop 3/113 Queen Street, Berry
Open Fridays 10am–5pm

Gerringong newsagency display:
131 Fern Street, Gerringong NSW 2534