



November 2018

# Work continuing on Great Western Highway, Blackheath from Monday 3 December

The Australian and New South Wales governments are upgrading the Great Western Highway between Katoomba and Lithgow to improve traffic flow, safety and travel conditions.

Upcoming work will include:

## **Utility relocations**

A key part of the work is relocating a range of utilities across the project area including:

- Sections of water main along the Great Western Highway between Sutton Park and Sturt Street
- Gas mains and new protection slabs between Sutton Park and Hat Hill Road
- Telstra cables and new protection slabs between Abbott Street and Gardeners Crescent
- Endeavour Energy and NBN assets at Govetts Leap Road intersection
- Optus assets between Abbott Street and Leichardt Street.

Utility relocation work involves digging in the road, footpath and road reserve, laying new pipes, mains or conduits and connecting to the existing network. Any directly impacted properties will be notified before any outages. Utility relocation work will start from **Monday 3 December** and is expected to continue until the end of the project.

We will also continue to carry out investigation work to help us find the location of underground utilities. Investigations involve digging a series of small exploratory holes in the footpath, road and road reserve.

We will temporarily restore disturbed areas where possible to allow for continued use during the day.



#### Hill 33 work and tree removal

Roads and Maritime acknowledges recent community feedback about the work proposed for the Hill 33 area between Hargraves and Jellicoe streets. We are committed to ensuring our work produces positive community and urban design outcomes.

As a result of this feedback, Roads and Maritime recently met directly with local community group representatives to look at options around the work in this area and in particular, the material finishes of the proposed retaining wall. We will continue to explore options and engage with local stakeholders to determine the most appropriate finish for this retaining wall.

We will also review the replanting in this area to reduce the impact of the retaining wall on the bushland setting. We are engaging with local stakeholder groups and Blue Mountains City Council on planting options.

Every effort has been has been made to minimise the loss of trees associated with the safety upgrade. However, some trees need to be removed to improve safety by increasing sight lines and to widen the shoulder for motorists travelling along the Great Western Highway.

Work to remove some trees and vegetation between Hargraves and Jellicoe streets will be carried out from **Monday 3 December** between **7am** and **6pm**, weather permitting.

Some tree removal will continue to be carried out between Jellicoe and Leichardt streets. Tree trimming at the Govetts Leap Road intersection will also be carried out before the end of the year.

### Our work schedule

To minimise the impact to road users, we will carry out work at night. We will work up to **five nights a week** from **Monday 3 December**, excluding public holidays, weather permitting.

Our night work hours will be between **8pm** and **5am** from **Sunday** to **Friday**. Our day work hours will be between **7am** and **6pm** from **Monday** to **Friday**. Some additional work may be required on Saturdays and this will be between **8am** and **1pm** on some weekends.

Construction work will pause during the holidays. Our last working day for the year will be **Saturday 22 December**. We will be back on site from **Monday 7 January 2019**. Traffic management will remain in place for the safety of road users and the community.

## How will the work affect you?

This work will be noisy and there'll be an increase in vehicle movements. Traffic control will ensure the safety of workers and the community while we are working.

Lighting will be directed away from residential properties. Every effort will be made to minimise impacts on you.

## Traffic changes

There will be temporary traffic changes during our work hours to ensure the work zone is safe. Lane closures will be in place and may affect travel times. Please keep to speed limits and follow signs and traffic controllers' directions. For the latest traffic updates, you can call 132 701, visit <u>livetraffic.com</u> or download the Live Traffic NSW App.

#### Contact

If you have any questions, please contact our delivery partner, Diona Pty Ltd, on 1800 035 733 or email <a href="mailto:K2Lupgrade@rms.nsw.gov.au">K2Lupgrade@rms.nsw.gov.au</a>. For more information on our projects, visit rms.nsw.gov.au.

Thank you for your patience during this important work.