

Transport for NSW

Heathcote Road Bridge upgrade

Project update | December 2021



Existing Heathcote Road Bridge over the Woronora River

Built by the military during World War II to provide an easy route over the Woronora River, today over 22,000 motorists cross the Heathcote Road Bridge in Engadine daily. The bridge provides an important connection between Sydney's south, Wollongong and the South Coast to Sydney's west.

Transport for NSW originally proposed to widen the existing bridge, however after listening to community feedback and working closely with industry partners we have developed an improved design upstream of the existing Heathcote Road Bridge.

We will construct a new additional bridge, parallel to the existing bridge.

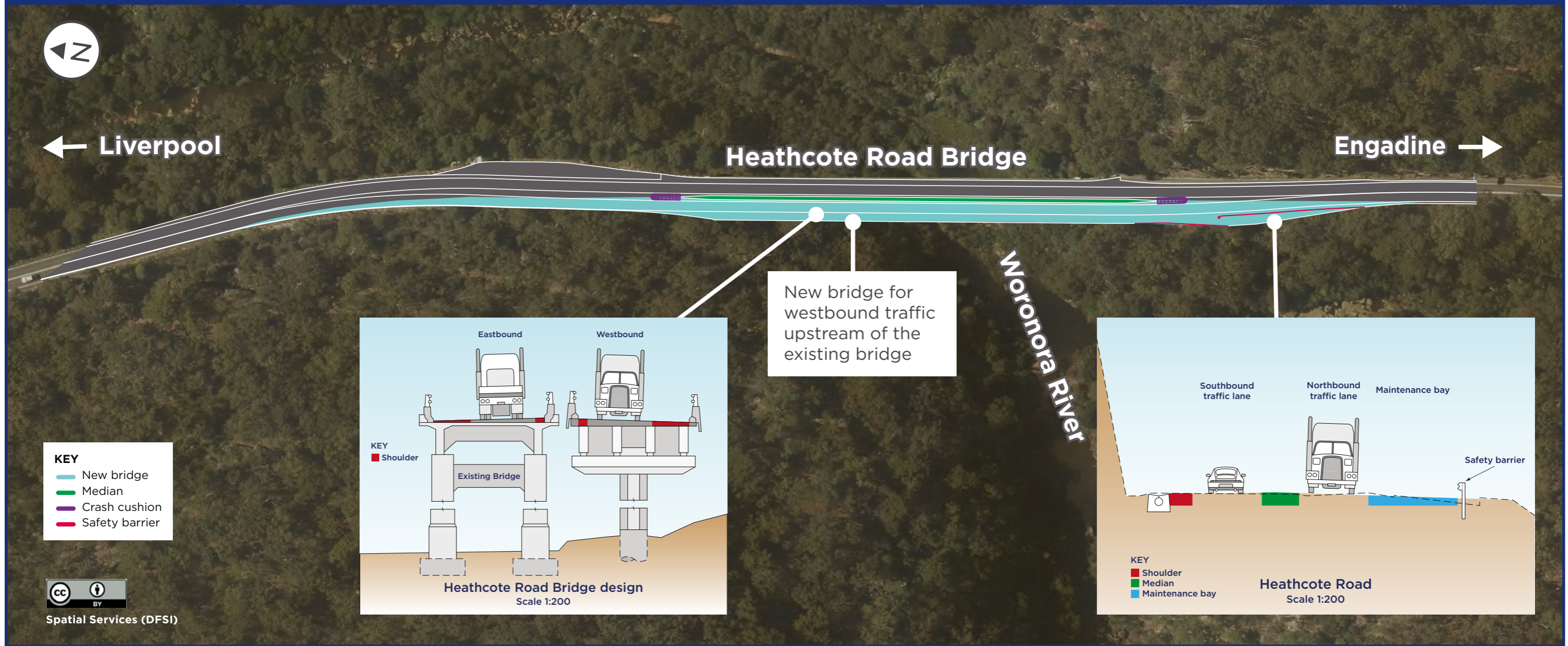
The new design will include one lane on each bridge providing safety and traffic flow benefits in the short term. The new bridge will be for westbound traffic and the existing bridge will be for eastbound traffic. As part of the Heathcote Road duplication announced in November 2020, we are also considering the option of additional lanes along the road. We will keep the community informed on the progress of the upgrade, including start dates.

We are pleased to announce the contract for construction of the Heathcote Road Bridge upgrade has been awarded to Fulton Hogan Construction.

Project benefits

- Improved road safety.
- Concrete median barrier to separate eastbound and westbound vehicles.
- Improved road network reliability allowing safe passing of broken down vehicles.
- Decrease in traffic delays.
- A design solution that can be implemented in the short term.

Heathcote Road Bridge upgrades



Why have we changed the design?

We are committed to improving travel times and safety, while also being mindful of reducing construction impacts on people and places.

We have worked closely with industry partners and have developed a new design for the Heathcote Road Bridge.

The new road alignment allows for a new independent bridge structure across the Woronora River and will be constructed without impacting Heathcote National Park. The new bridge design will improve safety by providing wider travel lanes, road shoulders and a central concrete median barrier.

This new design also ensures the preservation of the historic original 1940s-era bridge and wildlife corridors. The new bridge design will allow for a more streamlined construction phase, by reducing the number of night time road closures and detours compared to the original proposal.

Flora and fauna

Protection and preservation of the environment is a high priority for all our projects. This project will result in minimal disturbance to the native vegetation in the area and we'll be building new features to aid in the safe movement and nesting of local animals including microbats and koalas.

The Heathcote Road Bridge upgrade will include design features for animal transport under the bridge and on both sides of the bridge, including fauna furniture to aid the movement of koalas who use the area as a north-south movement corridor.

Transport for NSW has also engaged an experienced environmental consultant to explore additional safety and preservation methods to continue to protect our valued koala communities.

Several studies we have conducted indicate that this project is unlikely to significantly impact threatened species, populations, ecological communities or their habitats. As the project progresses we will continue to review and act to ensure minimal disruption.

Aboriginal cultural heritage

Investigations have been undertaken to ensure the project will not have any impacts to Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Key features of the new bridge

The design of the new bridge will include:

- A 6 metre wide bridge with 3.5 metre lane and a 2 metre wide shoulder
- Widening the northern and southern approaches about 250 metre on either side of the bridge

What's happening next?

Early work will commence during January and February 2022 including site investigations, site surveys and compound establishment. Our day work hours will be from **7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays**. Our night work hours will be between **8pm and 5am from Sunday to Thursday**. This may include some temporary lanes closures. Traffic changes will be in place when work is underway. Please observe traffic signs and traffic controllers' directions.

Traffic changes

The work will require several full road closures which will be undertaken at night. Detours between New Illawarra Road and the Princes Highway will be required during these closures to ensure safety of road users and workers during construction. This is required to excavate and widen the existing rock cutting on the north western side of the bridge. Transport for NSW will work to minimise the duration of the night time closures where possible. This work is expected to be completed within 12 months.

Traffic changes will be in place when work is underway. For the latest traffic updates, you can call **132 701**, visit [livetraffic.com](https://www.livetraffic.com) or check the Live Traffic NSW App.

We'll work to minimise risks to:

- The koala corridor, microbats and native vegetation
- Flooding and changes to aquatic habitat
- Water quality and soil impacts
- Aboriginal cultural heritage



Improving traffic flow



Improving safety



More time with family and friends

Contact us

If you have any questions about the proposed changes, please contact our project team:



1800 313 041



HeathcoteRoadBridge@transport.nsw.gov.au



nswroads.work/heathcoterdbridge



Level 7, 27 Argyle Street,
Parramatta NSW 2150



131 450

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 313 041**.



December 2021

Privacy Transport for NSW ("TfNSW") is subject to the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 ("PPIP Act") which requires that we comply with the Information Privacy Principles set out in the PPIP Act. All information in correspondence is collected for the sole purpose of assisting in the delivery of this project. The information received, including names and addresses of respondents, may be published in subsequent documents unless a clear indication is given in the correspondence that all or part of that information is not to be published. Otherwise TfNSW will only disclose your personal information, without your consent, if authorised by the law. Your personal information will be held by TfNSW at 27 Argyle Street, Parramatta. You have the right to access and correct the information if you believe that it is incorrect.