



Australian Government

**BUILDING OUR FUTURE**



Transport for NSW

# Community Guide to the M12 Motorway Place, Design and Landscape Plan

November 2021



Artist impression of the Airport interchange facing north-east with the “Emu in the Sky” artwork

Our vision for the M12 Motorway is one of ‘Connection to Country’. In acknowledging the changing landscape and transformation of an area that has long been connected to the local Darug people and subsequent non-Aboriginal settlement, the Place, Design and Landscape Plan features a design underpinned by vegetation of the area and local cultural heritage and history.

The urban design outcome illustrated in the Place, Design and Landscape Plan (PDLP) aims to bring to life the rich stories unique to the Western Parkland City, and to convey the stories embedded in the local landscape. We have sought to bring together a plan that will balance transport infrastructure design with the natural landscape, informed by local Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage. We hope that all motorists, pedestrians and cyclists travelling along the M12 Motorway enjoy an immersive ‘Welcome to Country’ experience.

Under planning conditions for the M12 Motorway, the PDLP has been created to inform the final design of the M12 Motorway. The PDLP has been a culmination of previous studies, plans and strategies done for the M12 Motorway project including the Strategic Urban Design Concept and the M12 EIS.

The PDLP is on public display for viewing and feedback until Sunday 28 November. You can find out more and make submissions on the PDLP by accessing the PDLP Virtual Information Centre at: [nswroads.work/m12pdlp](https://nswroads.work/m12pdlp).

## PDLP highlights

The PDLP covers a range of place, design and landscaping elements and is divided into four main chapters. These can also be viewed online.



Image of typical landscape found along the M12 Motorway



Artist impression of aerial view west over Kemps Creek and nearby interpretation node

### Contextual analysis

This chapter outlines the contextual analysis of the M12 Motorway corridor including the natural, built and community landscape such as landform, soil, vegetation, existing and planned land use and Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage.

### Urban design concept

This chapter explores the overall project vision and the overarching urban design principles and objectives used to guide the outcomes. It also highlights how the vision of Connection to Country has been integrated across the motorway, and the ways in which cultural heritage interpretation studies have been used across the project.



Artist impression of an interpretation node with nearby Emu in the Sky sculpture



Artist impression of shared user path east along the M12 Motorway

### Landscape design

This chapter builds upon the urban design objectives, principles and strategies, to outline the overarching landscape concept. The concept responds to common characteristics found in the area such as the Cumberland Plain while adopting sound ecological principles and a strong connection with Country.

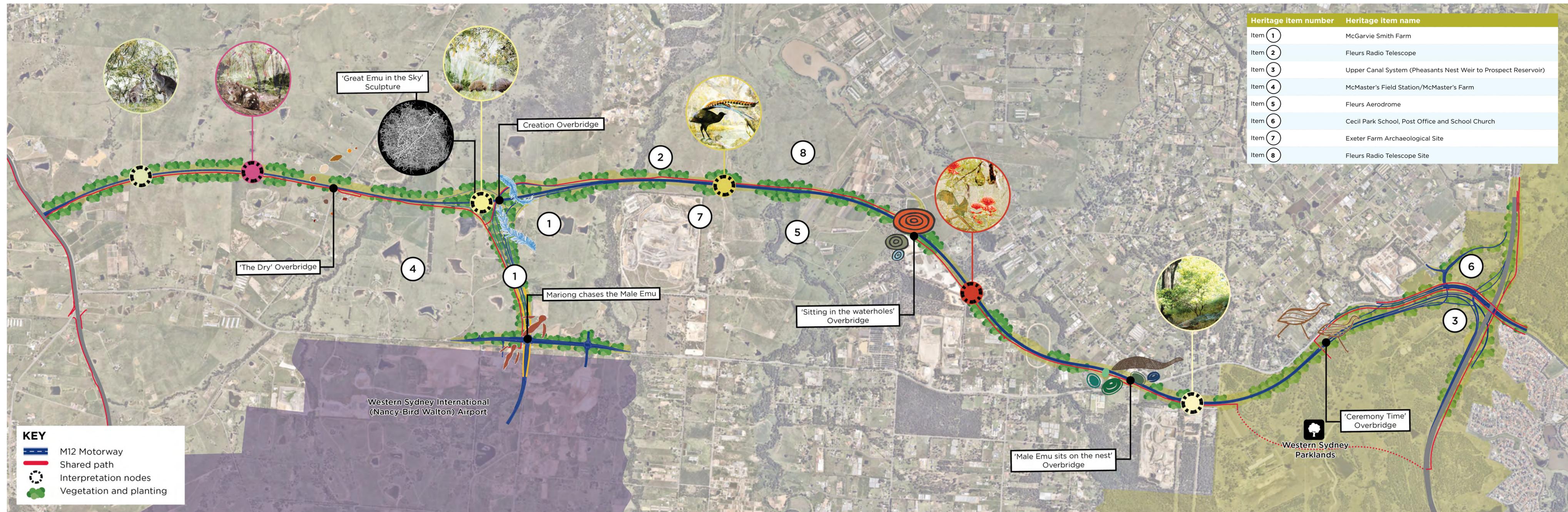
### Shared path, bridges and walls

This chapter outlines the pedestrian and cycling path connectivity, including the various design elements and finishes including Aboriginal cultural interpretation. It includes information on our overall design of bridges and walls across the project, their location, retaining wall types and finishes including cultural design embedded in all the overbridge safety screens.

### Key features of the design include:

- a new shared pedestrian and cycling path, connecting the M7 Motorway, Western Sydney International Airport and the Northern Road
- interpretation nodes that incorporate Aboriginal interpretation design into the built landscape and interpretation of non-Aboriginal heritage at locations along the shared path
- planting to reflect the calendar of six seasons observed by many Aboriginal groups
- a new sculpture and landmark that celebrates the Darug Community's sacred creation stories of the Great Emu constellation
- screens embedded with the Great Emu story to feature on six overpass bridges.

M12 Motorway - approved design



## Six seasons planting



Eastern Grey Kangaroo start having their babies

### January – March

During this hot, dry season, spring flowers have now produced seed and fruit ready to be gathered and enjoyed first thing in the morning (Bodkin, 2008).

- Colour: Yellow



'Cold; time to gather the nectar for ceremony'. The echidna, begin their gatherings

### June – late July

The Burringoa – *Eucalyptus tereticornis* – starts to produce flowers, indicating that it is time to collect the nectar of certain plants. (Bodkin, 2008).

- Colour: White



'Cool, getting warmer; time for major ceremony' Gathering of the Grey-headed Flying Fox

### September – October

A time of the year when the flying foxes gather in the darkening skies, with the appearance of the splashes of the bright red (Bodkin, 2008).

- Colour: Red



The tiger quoll seeks her mate

### April – June

The lilly pillys ripen on the trees. However, when the lilly pillys start to fall, it is time to begin the yearly trek to the coastal areas (Bodkin, 2008).

- Colour: Pink

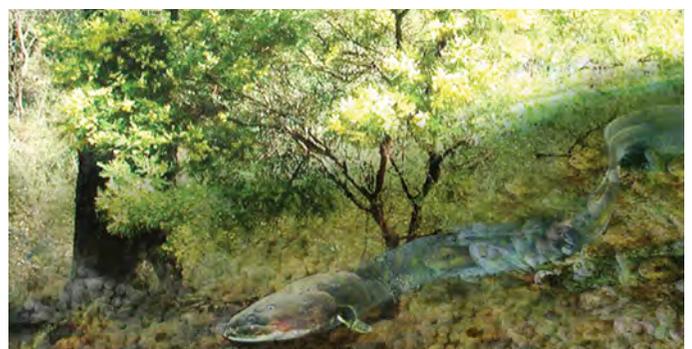


'Cold and windy: build shelters; plenty of fish' (Lyrebird) builds his mounds when season ends

### August

The time of the flowering *Acacia floribunda*. At the end of this time *Acacia decurrens* – flower, which indicates the beginning of the gentle spring rains (Bodkin, 2008).

- Colour: Yellow



The Great Eel calls his children to him

### November – December

It is the time of the blooming of the Kai'arrewan (*Acacia binervia*) which announces the occurrence of fish in the bays and estuaries (Bodkin, 2008).

- Colour: Yellow, Cream

## Have your say

The PDLP display forms an integral part of the overall M12 Motorway design process and these elements will be implemented during construction. The design illustrated in the PDLP was developed after extensive consultation with key stakeholders including heritage consultants, local Aboriginal groups and knowledge holders, local government, consultation during the EIS period, Department of Planning, Industry Environment, NSW Heritage, Western Sydney Parklands and the Urban Design Review Panel. We believe the PDLP reflects local cultural heritage, and acknowledges the rich history of the Western Parkland City, an area that has long been connected to the local Darug people and subsequent non-Aboriginal settlement.

We welcome your feedback on aspects related to:

- Landscape design
- Species selection
- Public elements on shared path
- Materials and finishes
- Lighting and wayfinding

Areas that we are unable to change include the Connection to Country framework used, the physical location of the pedestrian and cycling path, location of the sculpture, bridges and walls.

## Community information sessions

Join the M12 Motorway project team for an online information session. Please check session times at the PDLP Virtual Information Centre via the M12 Motorway project portal. These sessions will be recorded and made available online after in the PDLP Virtual Information Centre.



Artist impression of view south from Airport access road to Elizabeth Drive Interchange and entrance to Airport precinct

## Further information

For further information and to explore the PDLP in its entirety including an interactive map, please visit the PDLP Virtual Information Centre at [nswroads.work/m12pdlp](https://nswroads.work/m12pdlp) or scan the QR code with a mobile device.

For other questions about the M12 Motorway project, please contact the team:

 1800 517 500

 [nswroads.work/m12pdlp](mailto:nswroads.work/m12pdlp)

 [m12motorway@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:m12motorway@transport.nsw.gov.au)



This document contains important information about road projects in your area. If you require the services of an interpreter, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call the project team on 1800 517 155. The interpreter will then assist you with translation.

November 2021  
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