

Newcastle Inner City Bypass – Rankin Park to Jesmond

Rankin Park to Jesmond is the fifth and final section of the Newcastle Inner City Bypass to connect the Pacific Highway at Windale and the Pacific Highway at Sandgate.

In June 2014 the NSW Government announced it would complete the \$280 million Rankin Park to Jesmond section including \$150 million from Restart NSW to progress the project.

Background

Rankin Park to Jesmond is the final stage of the Newcastle Inner City Bypass. The 3.4 kilometre bypass would be built between Rankin Park and Jesmond, to the west of John Hunter Hospital.

In 2006 Roads and Maritime Services completed a route options study for Rankin Park to Jesmond. The study identified a preferred route which included a potential western access to John Hunter Hospital.

The preferred route was chosen as it provides the best overall balance between functional, geotechnical, engineering and economic considerations.

Project features and benefits

The Rankin Park to Jesmond section of the Newcastle Inner City Bypass would provide traffic relief to the surrounding road network, in particular the existing route of Lookout Road, Croudace Street and Newcastle Road.

The project would be 3.4 kilometres of four-lane divided road and would include:

- A grade-separated interchange at the northern connection with the existing Newcastle Road to Shortland section of the bypass
- Potential for a connection to the rear of John Hunter Hospital
- Bridge structures along the route to provide drainage, fauna movements and bushwalker access
- A grade-separated interchange with Lookout Road and McCaffrey Drive at the southern connection.

Community involvement

The preferred route for the Rankin Park to Jesmond section of the Newcastle Inner City Bypass was displayed for community comment in early 2007. The preferred option was subsequently finalised and the preferred route corridor included in Newcastle City Council's local environmental plan to protect the route from development.

Roads and Maritime Services will continue to work with the community and stakeholders as planning for the Rankin Park to Jesmond project continues.

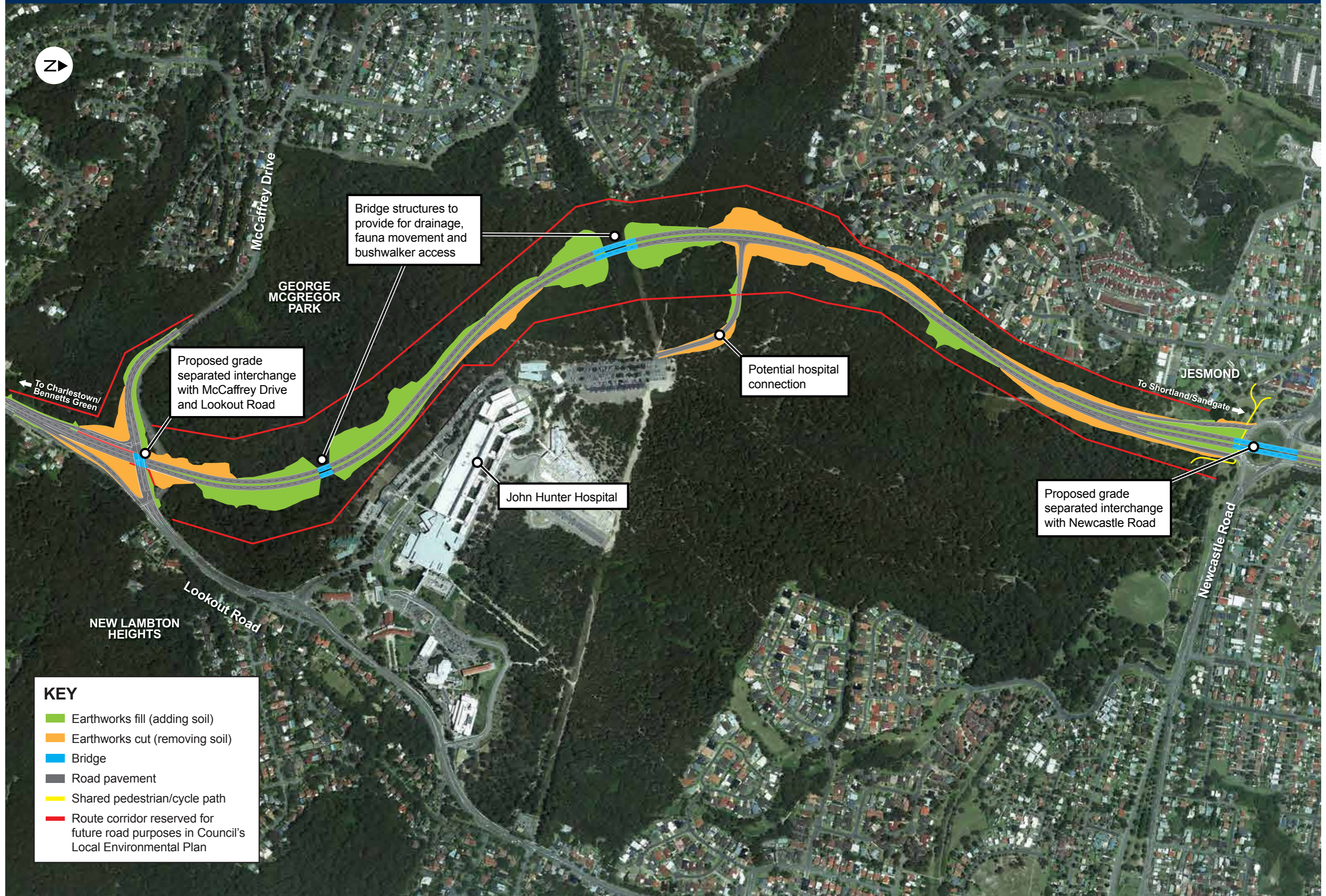
History of the construction of the Newcastle Inner City Bypass

The Newcastle Inner City Bypass is part of Roads and Maritime's long-term strategy to provide an orbital road to link Newcastle's road network.

Sections of the Newcastle Inner City Bypass have opened progressively since the early 1980s, with Rankin Park to Kotara opening in 1983, Jesmond to Shortland opening in 1993, West Charlestown Bypass opening in 2003 and Shortland to Sandgate opening in early 2014.

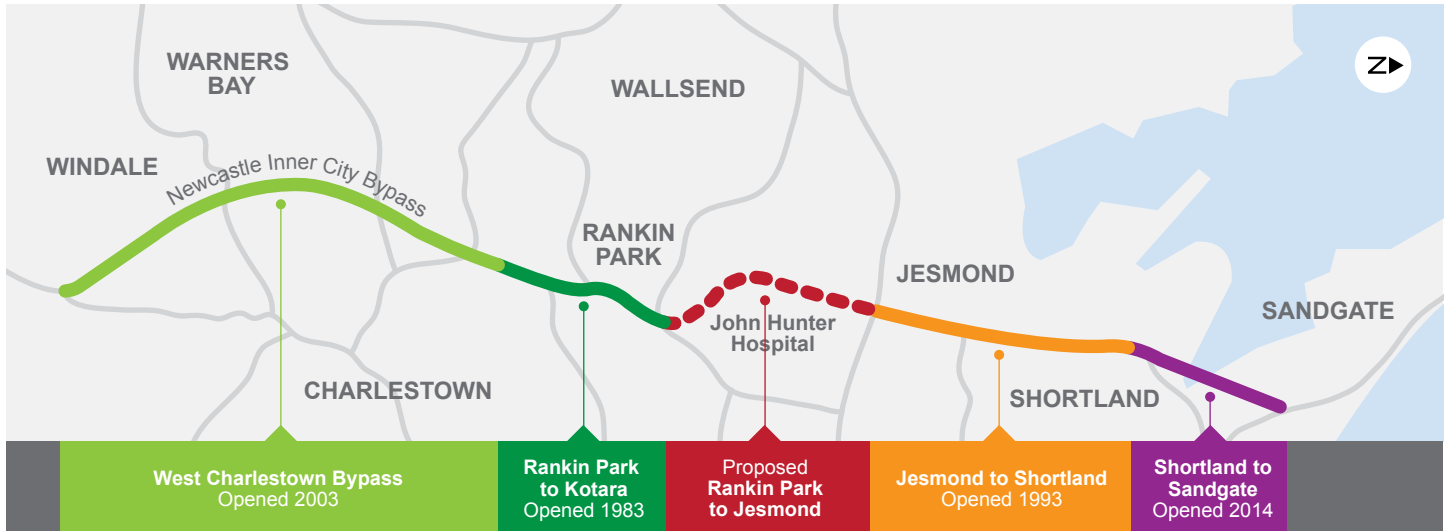
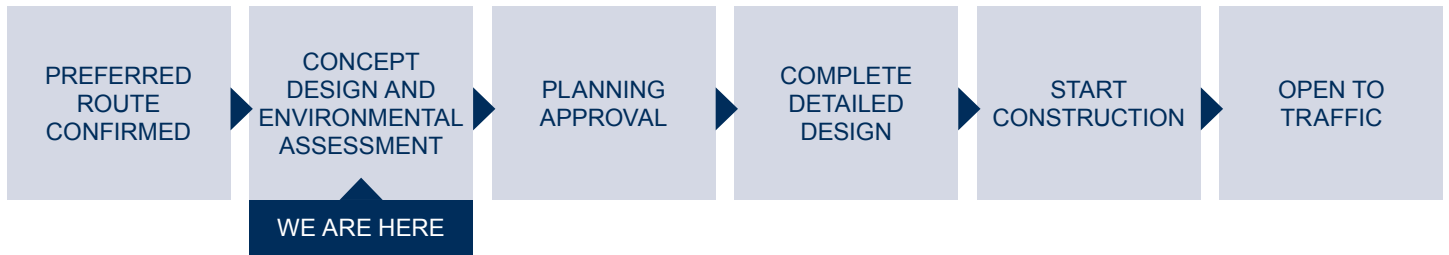
When completed, the final section between Rankin Park to Jesmond would improve north/south traffic flow in the inner western suburbs of Newcastle.

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Next steps

The project will now move to concept design and environmental impact assessment stage. The environmental impact statement is expected to be displayed for community comment in 2015.



Further information

For more information about the project:

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Roads and Maritime Services

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