

Northern Beaches Hospital road upgrade project

Project Update – August 2019



Looking east under the Hilmer Street bridge

The NSW Government is upgrading the road network for the people of the Northern Beaches after opening the Northern Beaches Hospital last year.

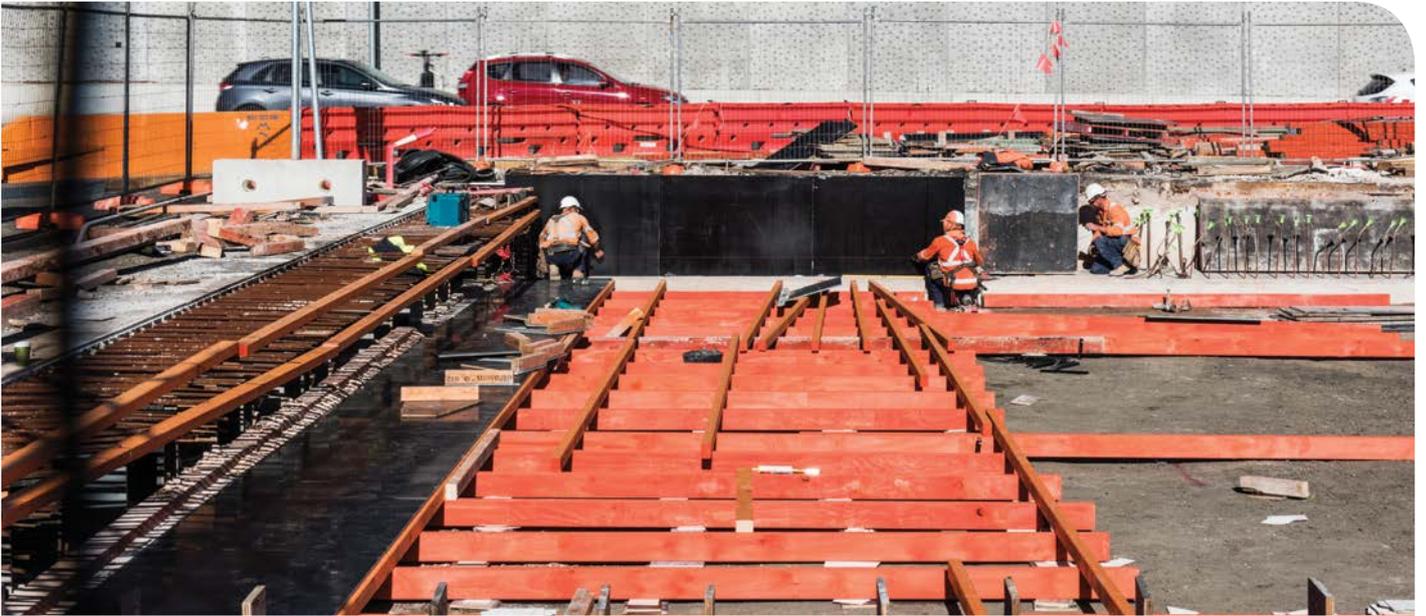
We're upgrading roads around the area so the 140,000 motorists who travel through the area every day can get around easier and faster.

The upgrades will provide the community with a better travel experience, increased capacity and improved access on the road network through the area, including for pedestrians and cyclists.

The people of the Northern Beaches now have a world class hospital and at the end of this project will have a new road network on their doorstep.

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Building formwork for the Forest Way bridge

Warringah Road underpass

The 1.3 kilometre long underpass will provide two new eastbound and westbound lanes along the centre of Warringah Road. This will allow motorists to drive underneath the road bridges at Forest Way, Hilmer Street and Wakehurst Parkway. Motorists using the underpass will bypass the traffic lights at three main intersections of Frenchs Forest, reducing travel time and congestion on Warringah Road.

Work on the underpass is progressing well with more than 60,000 cubic metres of soil, rock and other materials removed so far.

Warringah Road bridges

There are three bridges on Warringah Road that will cross the underpass, at Forest Way, Hilmer Street and Wakehurst Parkway. So far, we have poured more than 1700 cubic metres of concrete for the bridge decks, which are being constructed on the existing road level before we excavate the earth underneath.

Hilmer Street

In December 2018, we poured the first concrete bridge deck slab over the future Warringah Road underpass. Undeterred by rain, the pour took place over eight hours with the crew pouring 500 cubic metres of concrete. Go to the Roads and Maritime Facebook page to see the time lapse video footage of the spectacular weather and the concrete pour.

In July, we removed the earth beneath the Hilmer Street bridge. Excavation work will continue down about another two metres over the coming months.

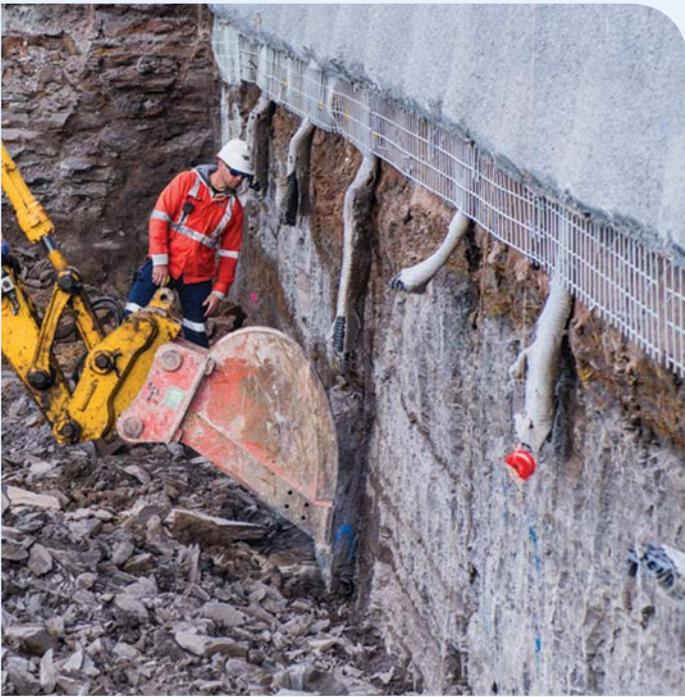
Forest Way and Wakehurst Parkway

Forest Way and Wakehurst Parkway are larger intersections, so we are building these bridges in two parts. We have built the eastern side of each bridge and in April we moved traffic onto these new sections.

After we finish building the western sides of each bridge, the east and west parts will be 'stitched' together with concrete to form a large, complete bridge to suit the new upgraded intersections.



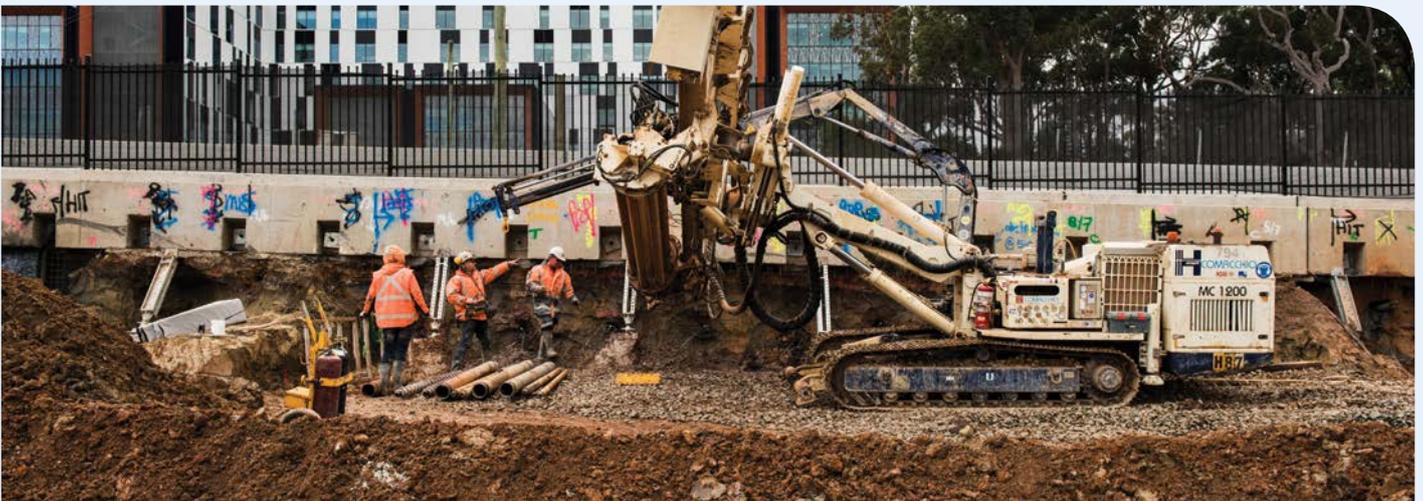
Progressing our work under the Hilmer Street shared use bridge



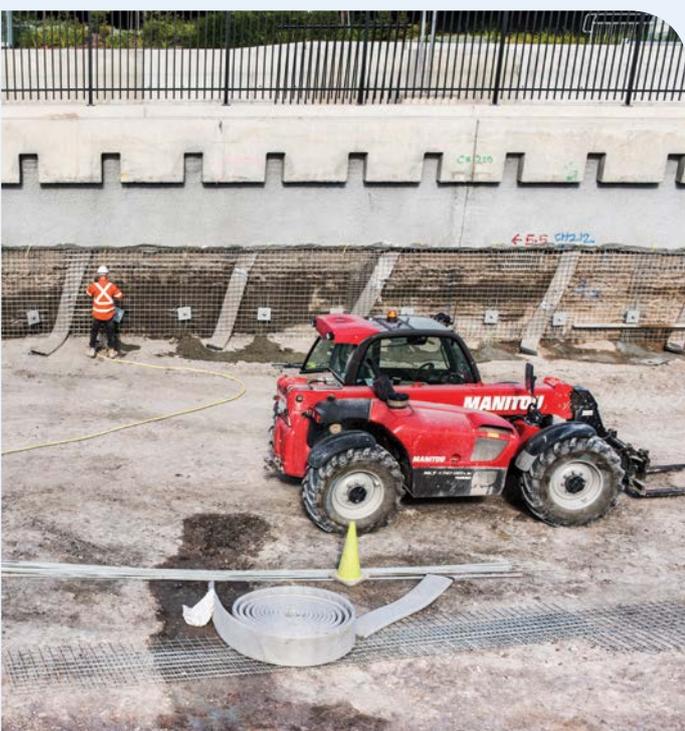
Observing detailed excavation of the underpass wall



Excavation at Forest Way intersection



Installing soil nails into the walls of the underpass



Fixing mesh to the underpass wall



Our team supervising the excavation of the underpass

Construction for Little Locals



Presenting to future women in science

Inspiring girls into science program – The Forest High School

In March, professional women from Roads and Maritime Services visited The Forest High School as part of the Roads and Maritime Services Women in Science and Engineering program.

Professional women from Roads and Maritime delivered a presentation to girls in Years 9–12 about the work done around NSW by many women in science, engineering, IT, design and project management.

The aim of the initiative was to encourage young women who might not otherwise have thought of science or engineering as a career option, to consider university or construction.

Enthusiastic students shared their goals, while the Roads and Maritime women shared personal stories about their experience and tips on diverse pathways into university and varied jobs. Balancing the many demands faced by women in the workforce was also a key theme discussed.

“Thank you for organising so many wonderful women to come and talk to our students about pathways into careers in Science fields. The chance to talk to women in the field is so rare and provided a great experience for our students to have their questions answered and also be exposed to the wide variety of options available in the STEM world.”

Miss Lucy Sturley
Rel. Head Teacher Science
The Forest High School



Savvy Slot Makers learning about the project

Savvy Slot Makers

During the April school holidays we hosted a special visit from the Northern Beaches Council’s school holiday program.

Around 40 primary school aged children attended the construction site for hands on experience with the project.

The children’s exciting day at site featured safety alarm robots, cardboard creations and models, as well as pythons and possums. The children were able to see and touch construction plant and equipment, and learn about the local environment.

The day began with a site walk highlighting the environmental initiatives designed to reduce the impact of the road upgrade on local wildlife such as possums and bandicoots. The children then met some of these animals during a talk with Sydney Wildlife, definitely a highlight of the morning’s activities.

The fun continued with a sandcastle making competition and an underpass craft activity. It was a great way to introduce some of the community’s younger members to one of the biggest construction projects in Sydney.

“I liked walking around the different road paths and I liked the activities.”

“I liked the wildlife and we learned about what happened to them.”

“I liked looking at the tractor, the goody bag, and making construction tunnels.”

“I loved seeing the wildlife animals that were saved. Also liked making tunnels in a group.”

Delivering on Community Commitments



The Rotary Club of Frenchs Forest tree planting day

The Rotary Club of Frenchs Forest – tree planting day

The local Rotary Club has joined the project team for many community activities since construction began, the latest of which saw us all outside in the rain to 'put the forest back in Frenchs Forest'. On Friday 7 June, unperturbed by the wet weather, around twenty Rotary members and locals joined forces with their shovels in hand and raincoats on, to plant 38 native trees on the reserve near the intersection of Frenchs Forest Road East and Warringah Road.

There was certainly a great energy among the group as everyone chipped in to be part of a very important community initiative. 'The close cooperation between Roads and Maritime Services and Rotary has helped to re-establish much of the area with new plantings', Past President, Frenchs Forest Rotary Club, Keith Penfold said.

Gilbert Place Reserve – new playground opened

Frenchs Forest has some brand new play equipment in one of its beautiful cul-de-sacs. The project team and Northern Beaches Council partnered to gift the community innovative new play equipment designed to activate the green space.

Since its official opening on 28 March by the project's Design Manager, James John and Northern Beaches Council Mayor, Michael Regan, children of all ages have been busy using the new equipment.

The new equipment includes a double swing, two play towers with access nets, a play counter and slide, a zebra see saw and a tipping carousel swirl.



Officially opening the Gilbert Place Reserve playground

Pear tree gifting

On Friday 15 February, we presented The Forest High School with a cutting from the heritage pear tree that was removed from Warringah Road during the road upgrade.

The original pear tree was a remnant of Holland's Orchard. Under the care of a local nursery, a number of cuttings grew into healthy trees over summer and have been donated to local schools.

The presentation was attended by Northern Beaches Council Mayor, Michael Regan, the Manly, Warringah and Pittwater Historical Society President, Mr Richard Michell, The Forest High School Principal, Rosemary McDowall and students from the school's environmental committee.

The school was also provided with a plaque and resources to educate students on the history of the tree and the local area for years to come.



Presenting the pear tree to The Forest High School



Looking east at the work area from the Forest Way shared use bridge

Look how far we've come...



And we mean, really look at how far we've come.

The project website contains amazing aerial images of how much major intersections have changed since work began, and images of how it will look when complete. Compare now, then and the future by clicking on the interactive portal on the homepage at rms.nsw.gov.au/nbh

Community and Environmental Forum

The Community Relations Team present community public forums every six weeks to local residents interested in updates about the road work. If you would like to attend one of the forums, please register your interest by phone or email.



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Contact us

For any further project related information, you can also call us on **1800 014 307** or drop in to the Community Information Centre on the corner of Warringah Road and Wakehurst Parkway.

 **1800 014 307**

 **nbhcommunity@nbhr.com.au**

 **www.rms.nsw.gov.au/nbh**



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