

# Northern Beaches Hospital road upgrade project Warringah Road underpass FAQ

The widening of Warringah Road is a major component of the Northern Beaches Hospital road upgrade project, significantly increasing the capacity of the road network, decreasing traffic congestion and connecting the key areas of the Northern Beaches with the Northern Beaches Hospital, Frenchs Forest, Chatswood and the city.

The centerpiece of the Warringah Road widening is the 1.3 kilometre long underpass. The open air underpass will provide two lanes heading east and two lanes heading west.

Motorists will enjoy a faster journey to and from Chatswood and the city from Dee Why, Brookvale, Seaford and other parts of the Northern Beaches. The four lane underpass will take motorists under the intersections of Warringah Road at Forest Way, Hilmer Street and Wakehurst Parkway, effectively bypassing Frenchs Forest.

Please see answers to some Frequently Asked Questions about the underpass below.

## Where will the underpass start and finish? Are there any other entry points?

Motorists can enter the underpass at three points; Wakehurst Parkway, and the Warringah Road western and eastern entry points.

Warringah Road through traffic will enter and exit the eastern end of the underpass approximately half way between Wakehurst Parkway and Allambie Road, just after Rodborough Road if travelling west from Dee Why. The western entry and exit point on Warringah Road is at Fitzpatrick Avenue East and West.

Motorists travelling north and south on Wakehurst Parkway can enter the underpass at the intersection of Warringah Road to travel in a westbound direction.

## Will motorists be charged a toll to use the Warringah Road underpass?

No, the Warringah Road underpass will be toll-free.

## How long and deep is the underpass?

The underpass is about 1.3 kilometres long and at its deepest point is approximately 8 metres lower than the Warringah Road surface lanes.

## Why isn't the underpass longer than 1.3 kilometres?

One of the main drivers for the widening of Warringah Road is to ease traffic congestion and queuing on Warringah Road at Frenchs Forest. The length of the underpass is sufficient to enable through traffic on Warringah Road to bypass three sets of traffic lights at the Forest Way, Hilmer Street and Wakehurst Parkway intersections and will enhance the performance of the road network.

## What is the speed limit in the underpass?

The speed limit on Warringah Road, including the underpass will be 70 km/h when the project is complete. The speed limit will be restricted to 60 km/h in both the underpass and on the surface lanes through the project area while we continue to complete our work

## What happens if there's a breakdown or an accident in the underpass?

There are two breakdown bays on Warringah Road in the underpass, one for eastbound traffic and one for westbound traffic. The breakdown bays are located between Forest Way and Wakehurst Parkway.

## Will buses use the underpass?

Bus service plans, including the potential for Forest Coach Line or State Transit service to use the Warringah Road underpass will be made available shortly after final completion of the road upgrade.

More information will be available when services are confirmed by calling **131 500** or online at [transportnsw.info](http://transportnsw.info)

## I live near Warringah Road. Will the underpass make any difference to traffic noise?

Noise impact assessments and modelling undertaken at the planning and design stages of the project predicted a decrease in post construction operational traffic noise levels for residents living close to Warringah Road, this being the result of through traffic on Warringah Road being below the level of the surface lanes.

## What is the clearance under the three intersections at Wakehurst Parkway, Hilmer Street and Forest Way?

The clearance from the underside of Wakehurst Parkway, Hilmer Street and Forest Way to the underpass road level is 5.3 metres.

If you have any questions, please contact the project's Community Team on:

**Call:** 1800 014 307 (free call 24 hours a day)

**Email:** [nbhcommunity@nbhr.com.au](mailto:nbhcommunity@nbhr.com.au)

**Website:** [rms.nsw.gov.au/nbh](http://rms.nsw.gov.au/nbh)

## Image 1



Final arrangement at the western end of the Warringah Road underpass

## Warringah Road west of Forest Way

### Q. When will the eastbound lanes of the Warringah Road underpass be open to traffic?

The eastbound lanes will be the first section of the underpass to open to traffic around midnight on Saturday 28 March.

### Q. What lanes do I use if I'm travelling on Warringah Road towards Frenchs Forest, Terrey Hills, Narrabeen or the Northern Beaches Hospital?

Stay at surface and use the lanes shown as 1 and 2 as per the orange arrows.

### Q. Can I enter the Warringah Road underpass from Fitzpatrick Avenue West?

No, you can only travel eastbound from Fitzpatrick Avenue West using the surface lanes.

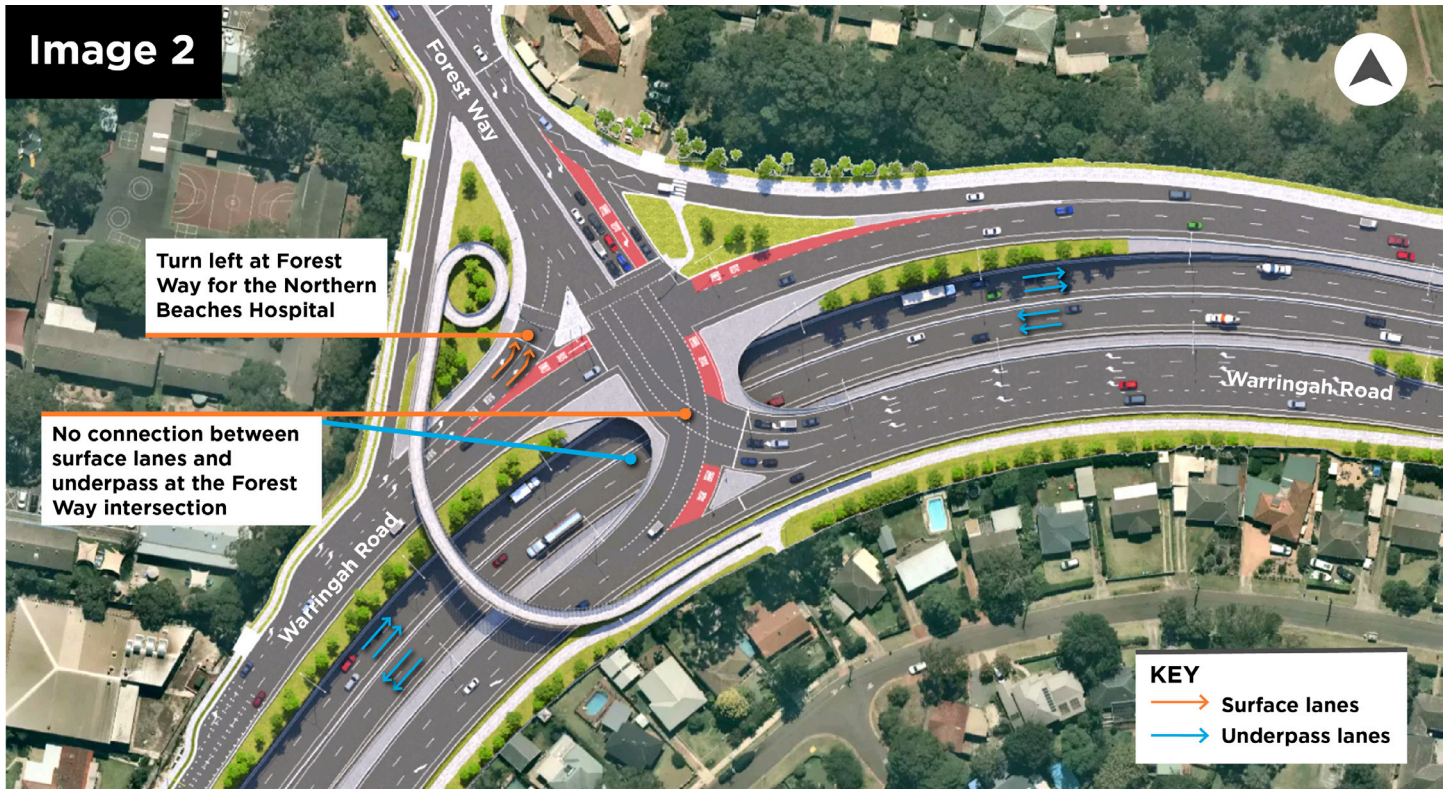
### Q. Do I use the underpass or the surface lanes to travel to Dee Why?

Take the Warringah Road underpass. Use the lanes shown as 3 and 4 as per the blue arrows. By taking the underpass you will avoid the traffic lights at Forest Way, Hilmer Street and Wakehurst Parkway.

### Q. What lane do I use if I want to turn left to Fitzpatrick Avenue West?

Use the lane shown as 1 as per the orange arrow.





Final arrangement of the Warringah Road and Forest Way intersection

## Warringah Road and Forest Way intersection

### Q. When will this intersection be finalised?

We will make the final changes to the intersection on the weekend of Saturday 18 April 2020.

### Q. Can I enter the underpass from Forest Way?

No. There is no access to the Warringah Road underpass at Forest Way.

### Q. Will I still have to merge with Warringah Road traffic if I am coming south down Forest Way and heading to Dee Why?

No. Road users can use the Forest Way slip lane to turn left to Warringah Road eastbound and will no longer have to merge with oncoming vehicles.

### Q. Will I have to stop so pedestrians can cross the Forest Way left turn slip lane?

Yes, there will be a pedestrian crossing allowing pedestrians to cross the Forest Way slip lane.

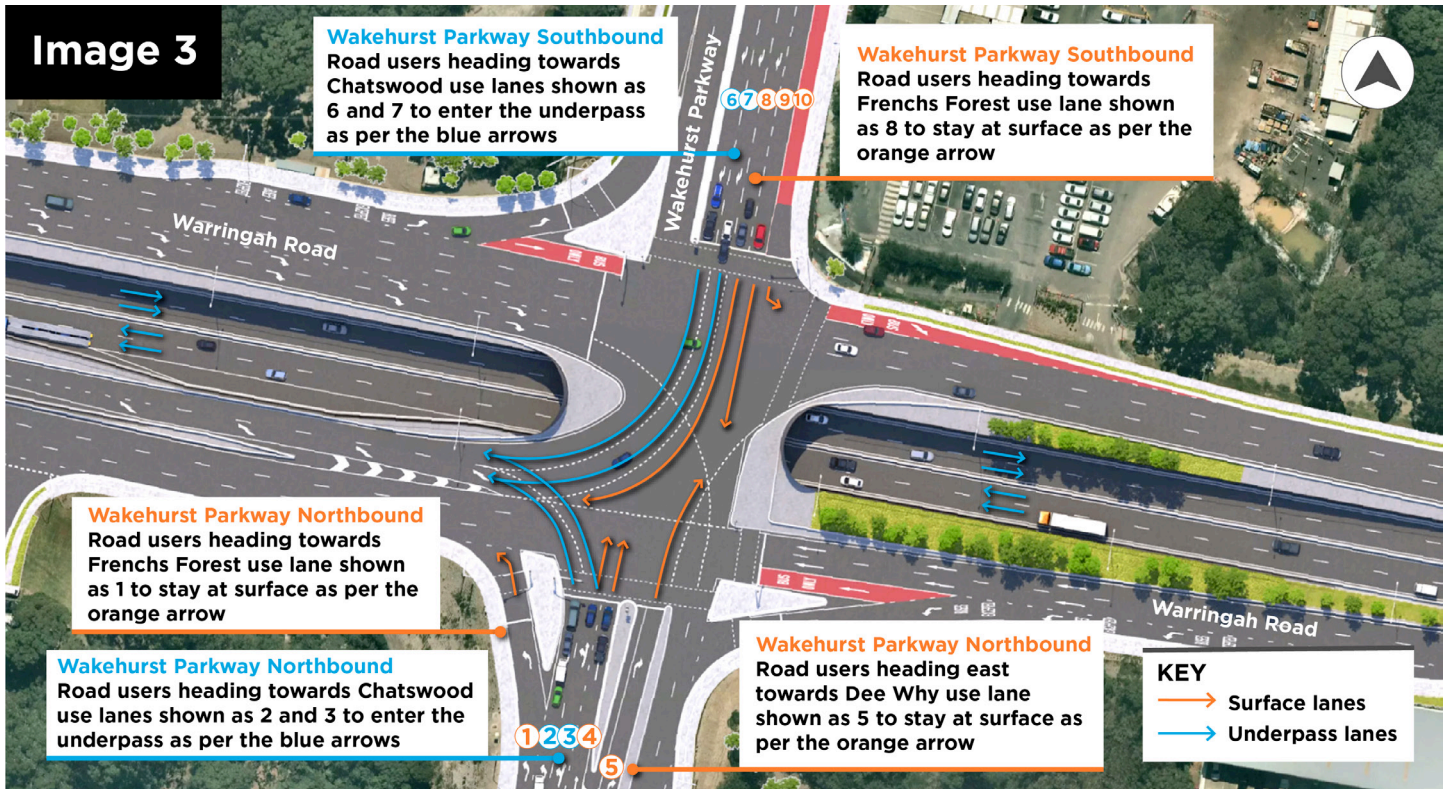
### Q. I am travelling eastbound to the Northern Beaches Hospital. Do I use the surface road or underpass?

Use the surface road, turn left at Forest Way and follow the signs to the hospital.

### Q. Can I use the bus lane before the left turn lanes at Forest Way to drop my kids off at Frenchs Forest Public School?

No, this road will be sign posted 'No Entry, Buses Excepted'.





Final arrangement of the Warringah Road and Wakehurst Parkway intersection

## Warringah Road and Wakehurst Parkway intersection

### Wakehurst Parkway northbound

#### Q. What lane do I use to travel towards Chatswood?

Use the lanes shown as 2 or 3 as per the blue arrows to enter the underpass and bypass the traffic lights at Forest Way and Hilmer Street.

#### Q. I want to go towards Frenchs Forest. What lane do I use?

Use the lane shown as 1, as per the orange arrow to use the surface lanes.

#### Q. How do I get to Dee Why from Wakehurst Parkway?

Stay on the surface road using the lane shown as 5, as per the orange arrow. Use this lane to turn right onto Warringah Road.

#### Q Is there only one through lane for Wakehurst Parkway northbound traffic?

No, the lane shown as 3 above is a shared left turn and through lane. You can use this as well as the lane shown as 4 to head north.

### Wakehurst Parkway southbound

#### Q. How do I enter the underpass towards Chatswood from Wakehurst Parkway travelling south?

Use the lanes shown as 6 or 7, as per the blue arrows.

#### Q. I want to go towards Frenchs Forest. What lane do I use?

Stay on the surface road using the lane shown as 8, as per the green arrow. Use this lane to turn right onto Warringah Road.

#### Q. Is there a bus lane on Wakehurst Parkway?

Yes, there is a southbound bus lane, shown as lane 10. Use this lane to turn left to Warringah Road.



Final arrangement at the eastern end of the Warringah Road underpass

## Warringah Road east of Wakehurst Parkway

### Westbound on Warringah Road

**Q. When will the westbound lanes of the Warringah Road underpass be open to traffic?**

The westbound lanes will open around 2am on Sunday 29 March following the opening of the eastbound lanes.

**Q. I am heading to Chatswood. Do I use the surface road or the underpass?**

Use the underpass and avoid the traffic lights at Wakehurst Parkway, Hilmer Street and Forest Way. Enter the underpass by using the lanes shown as 6 or 7 as per the blue arrows.

### Eastbound on Warringah Road

**Q. I will be travelling in the underpass and want to travel towards Allambie Heights. Does the underpass merge with the surface traffic?**

The underpass lanes merge with the surface lanes. The lane shown as 5 becomes the right turn lane for road users heading towards Allambie Heights.