



Transport
Roads & Maritime
Services

Prospect Highway upgrade Reservoir Road, Prospect to St Martins Crescent, Blacktown

Preliminary Concept Design Community and Stakeholder Consultation Report

March 2014

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1. Background

Roads and Maritime Services propose to upgrade 3.6km of Prospect Highway between Reservoir Road at Prospect and St Martins Crescent at Blacktown. The proposal is located about 30km west of the Sydney Central Business District (CBD).

Prospect Highway is located in western Sydney and is an 8.1km corridor running between Reservoir Road, Prospect, in the south and the M2 Motorway, Seven Hills, in the north-east. The road functions as a principal arterial road linking major urban, commercial and industrial areas to the M4 Western Motorway, M7 Motorway and M2 Motorway. The corridor forms part of the main road through the suburbs of Prospect, Blacktown and Seven Hills.

The objective of the proposal is to provide increased capacity to cater for forecast 2031 transport growth on Prospect Highway between Reservoir Road, Prospect, and St Martins Crescent, Blacktown. The proposal is needed to reduce traffic congestion currently experienced by road users and to improve safety. The road is currently operating close to capacity in peak times, resulting in significant delays for motorists. The proposal does not include the Prospect Highway extension through to Seven Hills – this may be investigated separately in the future.

Prospect Highway within the proposal area is currently a combination of two lane and four lane undivided carriageway with 14 intersections and a posted speed of 60km/h.

Preliminary investigations during 2012 and 2013 for the proposed Prospect Highway upgrade have included development of a strategic concept design and access strategy. The project team is currently developing the concept design and carrying out specialist studies to inform the Review of Environmental Factors. The Review of Environmental Factors looks at the potential impacts that the proposal could cause while being built and in the long term, and examines where these can be avoided, minimised or mitigated. The Review of Environmental Factors is guided by the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

The studies which inform the Review of Environmental Factors include: biodiversity (flora and fauna), noise and vibration, traffic and transport, Aboriginal heritage, non-Aboriginal heritage (known as statement of heritage impact – SOHI), contamination, hydrology and utility investigations, geotech investigations and urban design, landscape character and visual impact assessment. The Review of Environmental Factors is expected to be available for the community to review and comment in the first half of 2014 in conjunction with the concept design.

Roads and Maritime has recently completed the upgrade of the Prospect Highway intersection with the M4 Western Motorway westbound entry and exit ramps as part of the Wet 'n' Wild Sydney development.

Roads and Maritime is currently constructing a temporary shared cycle and pedestrian path between the M4 Western Motorway and Harrod Street. This is a section of the Prospect to Blacktown Cycleway which forms part of the Metro Sydney Bike Network. This work started in May 2013 and is scheduled to be finished in early 2014. The temporary shared path will complete a link in the Blacktown to Prospect Cycleway, creating a safe cycling and walking route bounded by Bungaribee Road in the north, Prospect Highway in the east, and Reservoir Road, in the south and west. Work being carried out includes:

- A temporary path with an asphalt surface which would be replaced with a permanent concrete path as part of the proposed Prospect Highway upgrade.
- Pedestrian activated traffic lights at the Great Western Highway eastbound exit ramp and the M4 Western Motorway eastbound exit ramp.
- Connection with the recently completed shared path south of the M4 Western Motorway.

For more information about bicycle routes around Blacktown and the Sydney metropolitan area, please visit www.bicycleinfo.nsw.gov.au.

2. The proposal

The current proposal would provide a generally four-lane divided road between Reservoir Road, Prospect, and St Martins Crescent, Blacktown. Additional lanes would be built within the existing road corridor. The proposal would deliver two lanes in each direction with a variable width central median (up to 12 metres wide in places). Some sections would be six lanes, with the additional lanes being dedicated bus lanes. The proposed widening would occur generally to the west of the existing carriageway.

The key features of the Prospect Highway proposal are:

- Upgrading to two lanes in each direction.
- A new two way link road between Great Western Highway and Prospect Highway with traffic lights at either end of the new road, to improve access.
- Duplicating the bridges over the M4 Western Motorway and Great Western Highway.
- Providing new traffic lights at:
 - Reservoir Road.
 - M4 Western Motorway eastbound entry and exit ramps.
 - Stoddart Road.
- Changing access arrangements for left in and left out at:
 - Ponds Road.
 - Vesuvius Road.
 - Tudor Avenue.
- Upgrading of Roger Place/Prospect Highway intersection and altering the access arrangements for left in, right in and left out.
- Potential upgrade of the pedestrian underpass of Prospect Highway linking Old Church Lane and Keyne Street, Prospect.
- Upgrading the shared path/cycle way on the western side of Prospect Highway between M4 Western Motorway and Blacktown Road.
- Building a pedestrian footpath on the eastern side of Prospect Highway between Keyworth Drive and Roger Place.
- Improving bus priority including additional lanes for buses only between Lancelot Street and St Martins Crescent, Blacktown.

The primary objective of the proposal is to increase capacity to cater for forecast transport growth to 2031 on Prospect Highway, between Reservoir Road, Prospect, and St Martins Crescent, Blacktown.

Other objectives of the upgrade include:

- Improving safety and access for both through and local traffic.
- Improving safety for cyclists and pedestrians by providing an off-road shared path.
- Improving travel times and reducing congestion along the Prospect Highway between Blacktown and the M4 Western Motorway.

3. Purpose of consultation

Roads and Maritime carried out consultation from October to November, 2013. The display of the proposed preliminary concept design for the Prospect Highway upgrade aimed to:

- Seek comment, feedback, ideas and suggestions from the community to be considered when developing the proposal.
- Build a database of interested and concerned community members who Roads and Maritime can continue to engage with during development of the proposal.

4. Method of consultation

Community members were encouraged to provide their feedback, leave comments and make submissions in person, by mail, email or phone contact with the project team.

The community could contact Roads and Maritime and leave comments and submissions by:

- In Person – At community information sessions
- Email – ProspectHighway@rms.nsw.gov.au
- Phone – 1300 660 275
- Mail – Prospect Highway upgrade
Roads and Maritime Services
PO Box 973
Parramatta CBD NSW 2124

Community information sessions were held at:

- Max Webber Library Building, Blacktown, between 12.30pm and 3.30pm on Saturday 26 October 2013.
- Shelley Public School between 5.30pm and 8.30pm on Wednesday 6 November 2013.
- Westpoint Shopping Centre, 17 Patrick Street, Blacktown on Thursday 14 November 2013 from 3pm to 7pm.

The preliminary concept design was displayed from October to November, 2013, at the following locations:

- Max Webber Library Building, Corner Flushcombe Road and Alpha Street, Blacktown (from 22 October to 24 November 2013).
- Blacktown City Council, 62 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown (from 22 October to 24 November 2013).

Roads and Maritime produced a diagram which was published in a community update flyer (Appendix A) to provide community and stakeholders information about the proposed preliminary concept design. A dedicated 1300 project phone number and dedicated email address was provided for those wishing to make comment. For those who attended community information sessions, feedback forms (Appendix B) and a reply paid envelope were provided. The feedback form was also available on the project website, in the project documents section, and could be sent via post or email.

The community were asked to provide comments by 24 November 2013, which allowed a five week consultation period. The Blacktown and District Environment Group was given a one week extension to allow members to give feedback after a meeting with the project team on 26 November 2013.

Additionally, Roads and Maritime informed the community about the proposed preliminary concept design, the community information sessions (including dates, venues and times), displays of the proposed preliminary concept design, and invited comment through:

- Local media newspaper advertisements (see Appendix C):
 - Blacktown City Sun on 22 October and 29 October 2013.
 - Blacktown Advocate on 23 October and 30 October 2013.
- VMS signs saying “*Proposed Prospect Hwy Upgrade. For details call 1300660275 or visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects/ & search 'Prospect'*” at two locations within the corridor.
- Community update newsletter (see Appendix A):
 - 8,500 copies distributed on 22-24 October 2013 to local residents and businesses (see Appendix D).
 - 63 emailed to key stakeholders including government agencies, emergency services, local community groups, schools, transport providers and utility providers.
 - 35 mailed to key stakeholders including government agencies, emergency services, local community groups, schools, transport providers and utility providers.
 - 196 hand delivered (with feedback form and prepaid envelopes) to post boxes of properties directly adjacent to the road corridor by project team members.
- Project webpage (see Appendix E)
www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects/projects/sydney_region/western_sydney/prospect_highway/index.html.

The project team held stakeholder meetings and had discussions with representatives of local stakeholder groups at community information sessions.

Stakeholder briefings:

- Blacktown City Council on 1 November 2013.
- Blacktown and District Environment Group on 26 November 2013.
- Shelley Primary School on 6 November 2013.
- Saint Marks Coptic Catholic Church on 16 November 2013.

Discussions with representatives of local stakeholder groups at community information sessions:

- Residents of Blacktown and Seven Hills Against Further Traffic at the Blacktown Library on 26 October 2013.
- Blacktown and District Environment Group at the Blacktown Library on 26 October 2013.
- Prospect Residents Action Group (PRAG) at Shelley Public School on 6 November 2013.
- Timbertop Reserve Group at Shelley Public School on 6 November 2013.

5. Review of community comments and feedback

Many community members raised common issues and these have been summarised below with Roads and Maritime's comments.

Issue	Summary of community comment	Roads and Maritime's comments
Access	Removal of the service road will also remove property access and parking for residents.	Properties on Prospect Highway will continue to be accessible after the service road is removed. On street parking will be removed from Prospect Highway as part of the proposal. Parking would be available within private properties and the local surrounding road network. Changes to parking arrangements would be considered as part of the Traffic and Transport assessment for the Review of Environmental Factors.
	A second driveway access should be provided to ensure property owners can enter and exit their properties safely.	Roads and Maritime will investigate the need for turning facilities within affected private properties to facilitate safe entry and exit to properties to and from Prospect Highway. Changes to driveway facilities would be discussed with affected property owners during detail design.
	Keep right out access at Roger Place to allow trucks and other large vehicles to leave the street. Trucks cannot travel on the proposed detour due to vehicle load restrictions.	Right turn access out of Roger Place is not considered a safe traffic movement once the road is upgraded to two lanes in each direction. All access changes are being reviewed as part of the Traffic and Transport assessment for the Review of Environmental Factors.
	A small median and merging section should be added to the proposal outside of Rogers Place to allow residents to turn right safely.	Right turn access out of Roger Place is not considered a safe option. Light vehicles can use Keyworth Drive and Tudor Avenue as a safer alternative route. All access changes are being reviewed as part of the Traffic and Transport assessment for the Review of Environmental Factors.
	The proposed bus lane will make it difficult to enter and exit properties.	Drivers turning left to enter a street, property or intersection can enter via a bus lane up to 100 metres before where they intend to turn. This also applies when entering a road with a bus lane. Roads and Maritime's website has more information on how to use bus lanes www.rms.nsw.gov.au/usingroads/buses/buslanes/ .
	The removal of the right turn from Ponds Road onto Prospect Highway restricts access to areas east of the Great Western Highway when travelling west.	The proposed concept design includes a two way link road from Great Western Highway to Prospect Highway which will replace the removed right turn from Ponds Road on to Prospect Highway.
	Traffic travelling south along Prospect Highway and turning right into Lancelot Street are made to wait for extended periods of time due to the red arrow, even if there is no oncoming traffic.	The operation of existing traffic lights will be reviewed and improvements would be considered and implemented as part of the proposal, if required.

Issue	Summary of community comment	Roads and Maritime's comments
	Closure of the right turn in and out of Tudor Avenue will make it easier to travel along the corridor.	All traffic changes proposed are being modeled as part of the Traffic and Transport assessment for the Review of Environmental Factors.
	A ramp should be included in the plans to allow vehicles travelling east on the Great Western Highway to join Prospect Highway to go south to Pemulwuy and Greystanes. The existing exit at Reservoir Road is already congested.	The proposed concept design includes a two way link road replacing the existing eastbound exit ramp for the Great Western Highway. This two way link road would provide a right turn south onto Prospect Highway from the Great Western Highway for vehicles wanting to access Pemulwuy, Greystanes and Wetherill Park.
	Access needs to be maintained for garbage trucks at Shelley Public School. Trucks currently access school via Prospect Highway.	The traffic and transport assessment, being prepared as part of the Review of Environmental Factors, is reviewing access arrangements to Shelley Public School during construction and operation of the proposal. Access arrangements to Shelley Public School are being discussed with the school and Department of Education. Access for garbage trucks would be maintained during construction and after the upgrade is finished.
	Very few trucks turn right onto Prospect Highway from Great Western Highway/Ponds Road. Creating turning ramp off Great Western Highway will encourage trucks onto Prospect Highway.	Prospect Highway is currently a secondary freight route (<i>Metropolitan Road Freight Hierarchy on the State Road Network Practice Note</i> , Transport for New South Wales 2011) and a B-Double Route. The Prospect Highway links to freight activity precincts at the north and south of the corridor (NSW Freight And Ports Strategy, NSW Government, 2013). The traffic and transport assessment, being prepared as part of the Review of Environmental Factors, is reviewing all access arrangements for vehicles in the proposal.
	Close the right turn to Tudor Avenue and expand the intersection at Keyworth Avenue to include a right turn lane and arrow.	The proposal is to remove the right turn into Tudor Avenue with the intersection becoming left in/left out. Right in access into Tudor Avenue is proposed to be via Keyworth Drive intersection which would be upgraded with a right turn bay for southbound traffic and a right turn signal phase to facilitate safe movements. The traffic and transport assessment, being prepared as part of the Review of Environmental Factors, is reviewing access arrangements.
Design – Traffic	Too many signalised intersections in the plan.	The proposed new traffic lights would improve intersection operation, safety and access for road users. An assessment of the impact of the proposed traffic lights is being carried out as part of the Traffic and Transport assessment for the Review of Environmental Factors.
Design – Two way link road	Re-align lanes on the Great Western Highway and reduce median to move two way link road away from houses and Timbertop bushland.	Roads and Maritime is currently investigating options to minimise the impact of the two way link road on bushland and homes. The results of this investigation and subsequent design refinements will be included in the Review of Environmental Factors.
	Build two way link road on the other side where there is no houses or impact to bushland.	

Issue	Summary of community comment	Roads and Maritime's comments
	Shorten the exit off the Great Western Highway onto Prospect Highway to minimise impact on bushland and homes.	
Design – Drainage	Stormwater drainage including kerb and guttering should be included in the upgrade.	Kerb and gutter is expected to be included for the whole length of the upgrade. The proposed concept design will be displayed in 2014 for the community's review and comment in conjunction with the Review of Environmental Factors.
	Insufficient drainage is allowing rain water to propagate noxious weeds.	Roads and Maritime is carrying out drainage and utility investigations as part of the design process. Any drainage issues identified within the proposal footprint would be addressed as part of the proposed upgrade.
	Blacktown Road floods with a small amount of rain.	Roads and Maritime is carrying out drainage and utility investigations as part of the design process. Any drainage issues identified within the proposal footprint would be addressed as part of the proposed upgrade.
Flora and Fauna	Minimise impacts on Timbertop Reserve.	Roads and Maritime is currently investigating options to minimise the impact of the two way link road on bushland and homes. The results from this investigation and the options assessed will be included in the Review of Environmental Factors.
	Minimise loss of existing trees and shrubbery between Hampton Crescent and the Great Western Highway.	Roads and Maritime is currently investigating options to minimise the impact of the two way link road on bushland and homes. The results from this investigation and the options assessed will be included in the Review of Environmental Factors. A landscaping strategy is being developed to address the removal of existing vegetation.
	Support the protection of the red gum tree on the eastern side of the Prospect Highway near the intersection of Lancelot Street.	The location of this tree is outside the expected area of impact. Landscaping and flora along the route will be investigated as part of the Review of Environmental Factors. The impact on this area and the tree will be clearer once the detailed design of the road is completed.
Heavy vehicles	What measures are being taken by Roads and Maritime to deter heavy vehicles from avoiding the M7 Motorway and making Seven Hills and Blacktown a preferred north/south route?	Prospect Highway is currently a secondary freight route (<i>Metropolitan Road Freight Hierarchy on the State Road Network Practice Note</i> , Transport for New South Wales 2011) and a B-Double Route. The Prospect Highway links to freight activity precincts at the north and south of the corridor (NSW Freight And Ports Strategy, NSW Government, 2013). The traffic and transport assessment, completed as part of the Review of Environmental Factors, would consider access arrangements for heavy vehicles.
	Would like truck inspection stations, corridor audits and patrols of heavy vehicles.	A truck inspection facility has not been identified as part of this proposal. The project team is working with the Vehicle Regulation section of Roads and Maritime on a strategy to identify the need for truck inspection facilities.

Issue	Summary of community comment	Roads and Maritime's comments
Local road network	Increased traffic will use the residential streets to avoid delays and road works. Can temporary measures to reduce speed be placed on side roads to deter drivers from using them as an alternate route?	An assessment of the impact of the proposal on the road network during construction is being carried out as part of the Traffic and Transport assessment for the Review of Environmental Factors. A traffic management plan would be prepared during detail design detailing proposed safety and control measures to be used during construction.
Noise and vibration	Upgrade will increase traffic noise in rural areas.	A noise and vibration specialist study is being completed as part of the Review of Environmental Factors. The noise study will consider properties directly adjacent to and surrounding the proposal and identify properties that would be further investigated and/or treated for noise mitigation measures during detail design. Properties along the corridor already impacted by traffic noise are, and can be, placed on the Roads and Maritime Noise Abatement Program for investigation and treatment.
	What will be done to mitigate the increase in noise?	Roads and Maritime has commissioned a noise and vibration specialist study as part of the Review of Environmental Factors. The noise study will consider properties directly adjacent to and surrounding the proposal and identify properties that would be further investigated and/or treated for noise mitigation measures during detail design. Properties along the corridor already impacted by traffic noise are, and can be, placed on the Roads and Maritime Noise Abatement Program for investigation and treatment. For more information about noise mitigation measures see the Roads and Maritime 'How is Noise Addressed?' information brochure, at http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects/resources/factsheets.html .
	Noise walls should be built to mitigate noise impacts.	The results of the noise and vibration specialist study and proposed treatment strategy, completed as part of the Review of Environmental Factors, would be discussed with affected property owners. The detailed design process will consider which noise mitigation measures are feasible and reasonable. Urban design would be considered in the design of any noise mitigation measures. For more information about noise mitigation measures see the Roads and Maritime 'How is Noise Addressed?' information brochure, at http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects/resources/factsheets.html .
	What will be done to limit noise from stop-start traffic on the two way link road directly outside homes?	The results of the noise and vibration specialist study and proposed treatment strategy, completed as part of the Review of Environmental Factors, would be discussed with affected property owners. The detailed design process will consider which noise mitigation measures are feasible and reasonable. Urban design would be considered in the design of any noise mitigation measures. For more information about noise mitigation measures see the Roads and Maritime 'How is Noise Addressed?' information brochure, at http://www.rta.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects/resources/factsheets.html

Issue	Summary of community comment	Roads and Maritime's comments
	Concerns about the amount of vibration homes will experience from the increase in traffic and heavy vehicles.	Roads and Maritime has commissioned a noise and vibration specialist study, as part of the Review of Environmental Factors, to consider vibration impacts.
	Increased heavy vehicles will increase noise from compression braking and acceleration.	Roads and Maritime has commissioned a noise and vibration specialist study as part of the Review of Environmental Factors. The noise specialist study takes into consideration the percentage of heavy vehicles currently using the road and predicted in the future.
Pedestrians and cyclists	Concerns for the safety of pedestrians travelling to the new Wet 'n' Wild theme park.	As part of the proposal a shared path is being built along the length of the project on the western side of Prospect Highway. The new path would connect the existing path north of Harrod Street to the path provided along Reservoir Road to Wet 'n' Wild.
	Concerned with the safety of adults and school children crossing the highway to access Shelley Public School, Mitchell High School and Children's First Childcare Centre.	Crossing facilities are currently provided at Lancelot Street and Keyworth Drive at the traffic lights. This will be maintained as part of the proposal.
	Concerned about the lack of footpath from Roger Place to the traffic lights near Shelley Public School.	As a result of feedback during community consultation a pedestrian footpath would be included from Roger Place to Keyworth Drive on the eastern side of Prospect Highway.
	Concerns that pedestrians and cyclists could fall downhill from the shared path toward properties.	The proposed concept design paths are being designed in accordance with <i>NSW Shared Path and Bicycle Guidelines</i> and <i>Austroads: Guide to Road Design</i> .
	Upgrade should provide more cycleway infrastructure.	The temporary shared path between Harrod Street and the M4 westbound entry ramp will be upgraded as part of the proposal. A shared path on the western side is provided for the length of the proposed concept design.
	Adequate space is required for a large group of school children to evacuate the school along the footpath in case of emergency.	Roads and Maritime is investigating the provision of a pedestrian fence along the western side of Prospect Highway in the vicinity of the school. This would be finalised during detail design in consultation with Shelley Public School and the Department of Education.
	Upgrade will remove access for students who walk to school and currently use the emergency gate at the eastern side of the school property.	The traffic and transport assessment, as part of the Review of Environmental Factors, is reviewing the access arrangements to Shelley Public School. Emergency access will be maintained as part of the proposal. Access arrangements for Shelley Public School are being discussed with the school and the Department of Education.
Pollution	Project will cause an increase in pollution and a decrease in air quality.	The Review of Environmental Factors will review the potential impacts that the proposal could cause while being built and in the long term, and examine where these can be avoided, minimised or mitigated.
	Two way link road will increase dust, soot and fumes in nearby homes.	Air quality in the Sydney Region is managed by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH). OEH monitors across the Sydney Basin and provides health warnings to the community. For

Issue	Summary of community comment	Roads and Maritime's comments
	There will be an increase in health implications due to increased exhaust fumes.	information about this please go to the OEH website http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/air/index.htm
Other issues out of scope	Extend Tudor Avenue through to St Martins Crescent.	As these are designated local roads, any change to them is a matter for Blacktown City Council to consider. Roads and Maritime will refer this comment to Blacktown City Council.
	Establish a medium to large taxi rank outside the entrance to Wet 'n' Wild theme park.	This suggestion is outside the scope of the proposal. Providing a taxi rank in this area is a matter for Blacktown City Council and Wet 'n' Wild to consider. Roads and Maritime will refer this comment to Blacktown City Council.
	When will Reconciliation Road be open?	Reconciliation Road was opened in late 2013.
	Will Sydney Water connect the sewer system to this area?	Providing a sewer system is a matter for Sydney Water to consider. Roads and Maritime will refer this comment to Sydney Water.
	Reseal the northern part of the Prospect Highway from Old Windsor Road to Wall Park Avenue.	This suggestion is outside the scope of the proposal, but will be referred to the area of Roads and Maritime responsible for road maintenance.
	Extend Blacktown Road to Lancelot Street.	The extension of Blacktown Road to Lancelot Street is not in the scope of the current proposal. This may be investigated in the future with consideration of issues such as intersection alignment, safety and possible property impacts.
	Connect the M2 and Seven Hills while you have the infrastructure in the area.	The Prospect Highway extension through to Seven Hills is not part of this proposal and there are no plans to construct this link. This project may be investigated in the future.
Construct the intersection halfway between Keyworth Drive and Roger Place in anticipation of the Seven Hills extension.	The Prospect Highway extension through to Seven Hills is not part of this proposal and there are no plans to construct this link. This project may be investigated in the future.	
Property	Concerned that property values will decrease.	If a property is adjacent to a new or upgraded road, Roads and Maritime will identify potential impacts as part of the Review of Environmental Factors and would seek to avoid or minimise impacts where possible. If a property is adjacent to a new or upgraded road and would potentially decrease in value, Roads and Maritime does not provide financial compensation.
	Roads and Maritime should buy out all properties affected.	Roads and Maritime would purchase properties directly required for the upgrade. Roads and Maritime is governed by the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991, together with the Roads Act 1993. For more information please refer to the Roads and Maritime Services land acquisition: information guide (February 2012). http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects/resources/documents/rms_land_acquisition_info_guide.pdf .
	Concerned that front yard will be lost due to upgrade.	The proposal does not impact on any existing front yards along Prospect Highway. The proposed upgrade is within the existing road corridor boundaries.

Issue	Summary of community comment	Roads and Maritime's comments
	Fencing along property boundary and Prospect Highway should be upgraded to improve property security.	Roads and Maritime will reinstate fencing impacted by the proposal works.
Road safety	Will the project fix inadequate sight distance when turning out of driveways onto Reservoir Road?	In the detail design phase of the proposal, driveways impacted will be investigated.
	Concerned about the close proximity of traffic to private properties if there is a crash.	Road safety is considered as part of the design and approval for the proposal.
	Concerned about the safety of drivers performing a right turn at Keyworth Drive.	As part of the proposal, the turning bay would be extended and a right turn traffic light would be provided for southbound traffic into Keyworth Drive.
	Safety barriers should be built between new road upgrade, intersection and properties to protect people and property.	Road safety is considered as part of the design and approval for the proposal.
Traffic congestion	Road already at capacity. Upgrade will attract more traffic making road even more congested.	The proposal would provide more capacity to cater for current and future traffic volumes to 2031. The traffic and transport assessment will model the impact of 'no build' and the proposal to assess the two options for capacity to handle the future traffic volumes.
	Synchronise traffic light signals to limit vehicles backing up on exit ramp off Great Western Highway.	Traffic lights along the corridor would be coordinated to provide optimal traffic flow along the route.
	Traffic lights at the intersection of Stoddart Road and Prospect Highway will cause further traffic problems and make the majority of traffic wait for only a few vehicles to cross.	The signals at Stoddart Road are being installed to improve safety at this intersection. Traffic lights along the corridor would be coordinated to provide optimal traffic flow along the route.
	Increased traffic lights will interrupt traffic flow.	Traffic lights along the corridor would be coordinated to provide optimal traffic flow along the route.
	Already difficult to exit Harrod Street, increased traffic will make it harder.	The operation of existing traffic lights will be reviewed and any improvements to their operation will be considered and implemented as part of the proposal, if required.
	Wet 'n' Wild will generate additional traffic in the area.	Additional traffic volumes associated with Wet 'n' Wild have been included in the traffic and transport assessment traffic model as part of the Review of Environmental Factors.

Issue	Summary of community comment	Roads and Maritime's comments
	The removal of informal parking spaces on Prospect Highway will add to traffic congestion on Hadrian Avenue during school drop off and pick up times.	The traffic and transport assessment, as part of the Review of Environmental Factors, is reviewing access arrangements to Shelley Public School during construction and operation of the proposal. It is safer and more appropriate for school access to be via the local road network. Access arrangements to Shelley Public School are being discussed with the school and Department of Education.
Other	Will current Blacktown Road addresses become Prospect Highway?	There will be no changes to residential addresses as part of the proposal.
	Two way link road from Great Western Highway to Prospect Highway destroys visual and serenity values.	An urban design and visual impact assessment is being carried out as part of the Review of Environmental Factors and will be available in 2014 for the community to review and comment on.
	Proposed upgrade will destroy quality of life and serenity for landowners.	The proposal will reduce congestion and provide more capacity to cater for current and 2031 traffic volumes. A traffic and transport assessment will model the impact of 'no build' and the proposal to assess the two options for capacity to handle the future traffic volumes.
	When will construction begin, how long will it take and what will be the impacts of construction?	There is no confirmed timetable for construction of the proposed Prospect Highway upgrade. The proposal is in the planning phase. As part of the Review of Environmental Factors, the impact of construction will be assessed and confirmed during detailed design phase. Throughout this project, Roads and Maritime will provide regular information to the community to keep them informed of progress.
	Business will decrease if there is no parking available out the front of premises.	A traffic and transport assessment is investigating the impact of the proposal on local businesses as part of the Review of Environmental Factors. The project team will also meet with businesses impacted to discuss parking arrangements.
	Will houses be inspected before construction work begins?	Roads and Maritime will inspect all adjacent structures and buildings to document the current condition for future reference before construction of the proposal begins.
	Concerns about loss of privacy as drivers in trucks will be able to see over fences into backyards.	The detailed design process will consider which screening measures are feasible and reasonable.
	Safety concerns about how and where cars stop to investigate cars for sale on the side of Blacktown Road.	As part of the proposal, widening will reduce the area for cars to park. Roads and Maritime will investigate options for parking in this area.

6. Issues summary

Roads and Maritime received 131 responses on the proposal from members of the community who identified as local residents, commuters, business operators, organisations or pedestrians. Issues raised by the community will continue to be recorded and considered by Roads and Maritime as the proposal progresses.

During the comment period Roads and Maritime received/held and reviewed the following responses:

- 49 emails
- Eight phone calls
- 604 unique visits to the project website
- 18 letters/feedback forms.
- Seven face to face discussions.

The most commonly raised points from the community in the responses were:

- Road noise increases along Prospect Highway (26 per cent).
- Design issues (25 per cent).
- Road safety (15 per cent).
- Traffic congestion (15 per cent).
- Access issues (12 per cent).

Most of the responses received by the project team showed general appreciation for the need for the proposal. 17 per cent of the responses supported the proposal with 3 per cent against.

The feedback received has informed the concept design and specialist studies being completed as part of the Review of Environmental Factors. The Review of Environmental Factors and the proposed concept design are expected to be displayed in the first half of 2014 for community review and comment.

7. Next steps

Comments and submissions received and summarised in this report will help Roads and Maritime to develop the concept design.

Proposed next steps:

- Continue with development of the concept design.
- Prepare a community update to distribute in the first half of 2014 for feedback about the concept design and the Review of Environmental Factors.
- Ongoing meetings with local councils, state government agencies, bus operators and other stakeholders.



Further feedback will be sought in the first half of 2014 when the concept road design for the proposal and the Review of Environmental Factors are expected to be displayed to the community for comment.

The project team will keep the community informed as the project progresses through regular updates on the Roads and Maritime website (www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects).

If you would like to be on the stakeholder list please contact the project team with your name and contact details.

- Email – ProspectHighway@rms.nsw.gov.au
- Phone – 1300 660 275
- Mail – Prospect Highway upgrade
Roads and Maritime Services
PO Box 973
Parramatta CBD NSW 2124

Appendix A – Proposed preliminary concept design community update flyer



Above: Preliminary concept design diagram – Over three A4 portrait pages, inside the community update flyer.
Below: Preliminary concept design community update flyer – Over three A4 portrait pages on the outside of the community update flyer.

The proposal
The key features of the Prospect Highway upgrade are:

- Upgrading to two lanes in each direction.
- Duplicating the bridges over the M4 Western Motorway and the Great Western Highway.
- Providing a new two way road between the Great Western Highway and the Prospect Highway with traffic lights at either end of the new road to improve access.
- Providing new traffic lights at:
 - Stoddard Road.
 - M4 Western Motorway eastbound entry and exit ramp.
 - Reservoir Road.
- Changing access arrangements at:
 - Tudor Avenue.
 - Roger Place.
 - Vesuvius Street.
 - Ponds Road.
- Constructing a shared path/cycleway on the western side of the Prospect Highway to connect existing paths.
- Improving bus priority.

Project objectives
The primary objective of the proposal is to provide increased capacity in order to cater for forecast transport growth to 2031 on the Prospect Highway between Reservoir Road at Prospect and St Martins Crescent at Blacktown.

Other objectives of the upgrade include:

- Improve safety and access for both through and local traffic.
- Improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians by providing an off-road shared path.
- Improve travel times and reduce congestion along the Prospect Highway between Blacktown and the M4 Western Motorway.

Community involvement
Roads and Maritime recognises the importance of involving the community in the development of the Prospect Highway upgrade. Roads and Maritime is now displaying the preliminary concept design to the community for comment.

Display locations
This community update is on the Roads and Maritime website. The preliminary concept design for the Prospect Highway upgrade will be on display at:

Thursday 14 November, 3pm-7pm
Westpoint Shopping Centre, 17 Patrick Street, Blacktown

Until 24 November 2013
Max Webber Library Building, Corner Flushcombe Road and Alpha Street, Blacktown

Until 24 November 2013
Blacktown City Council, 62 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown

Community information sessions
Roads and Maritime will host two community information sessions. The Roads and Maritime project team will be available to answer questions and receive your feedback. A formal presentation will not be given, so please feel free to drop in at any time during the information sessions.

Saturday 26 October 2013
12:30pm to 2:30pm
Library Function Centre, Blacktown
Level 1, Max Webber Library Building
Corner Flushcombe Road and Alpha Street
Blacktown NSW 2148

Wednesday 6 November 2013
5:30pm to 8:30pm
Shalby Public School
Hadrian Ave
Blacktown NSW 2148

For more information

1. For more information on the Prospect Highway upgrade, please visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects and search for Prospect Highway upgrade.
2. For more information on the M4 westbound entry and exit ramps please visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects and search for "M4 westbound ramps Prospect". For bicycle routes around Blacktown and the Sydney metropolitan area, please visit www.bicycleroute.nsw.gov.au

Have your say
Roads and Maritime is seeking your feedback by 24 November 2013. Comments should be sent to:
Email: ProspectHighway@rms.nsw.gov.au
Phone: 1300 660 275
Mail: Prospect Highway upgrade, Roads and Maritime Services, PO Box 973, Parramatta CBD NSW 2124

What happens next?
All feedback received during the display of the preliminary concept design will be considered by the project team. A consultation report will be made available on the project website.
Thank you for your participation.

Community Comments on Preliminary Concept Design

Project Approval for the Final Concept Design

Construction in Future Years

Community Update
OCTOBER 2013

Prospect Highway upgrade

Roads and Maritime Services is planning the future upgrade of the Prospect Highway between Reservoir Road at Prospect and St Martins Crescent at Blacktown to meet traffic demand in the road corridor. Preliminary investigations for the Prospect Highway upgrade have included development of a strategic concept design and access strategy. Roads and Maritime is seeking your feedback on the preliminary concept design for the upgrade of the Prospect Highway by 24 November 2013.

Background
The Prospect Highway, between Reservoir Road at Prospect and St Martins Crescent at Blacktown, forms the main road corridor connecting the city of Blacktown with the M4 Western Motorway. It is proposed to upgrade the corridor to meet future traffic demand, reduce travel times, and improve road safety. The upgrade will involve improvements to the existing route of the Prospect Highway. The proposal does not include the Prospect Highway extension through Seven Hills. This project may be investigated in the future.

Roads and Maritime is currently constructing two projects along the Prospect Highway corridor:

- Upgrade of the intersection of the M4 Western Motorway westbound entry and exit ramps which includes a permanent cycle shared path between M4 Western Motorway bridge and Reservoir Road at Prospect. This work started in January 2013 and is scheduled for completion late in 2013, weather permitting. This work is being carried out as part of the Weir and Wild Sydney development.
- Construction of a temporary shared path along Prospect Highway at Prospect between Harriet Street to the northern side of the Prospect Highway at Prospect. This temporary shared path will complete a link in the Blacktown to Prospect Cycleway.

Key features
The key features of the Prospect Highway upgrade include:

- Upgrading to two lanes in each direction.
- Duplicating the bridges over the M4 Western Motorway and the Great Western Highway.
- Providing a new two way road between the Great Western Highway and the Prospect Highway to improve access in all directions.

Appendix C – Newspaper advertisement



Transport
Roads & Maritime
Services

Prospect Highway proposed upgrade

Prospect and Blacktown

Roads and Maritime Services is seeking your feedback on the preliminary concept design for the **Prospect Highway upgrade**, between Reservoir Road at Prospect and St Martins Crescent at Blacktown, by **Sunday 24 November 2013**.

The upgrade would provide two lanes in each direction to improve road safety and traffic flow.

The preliminary concept design for the upgrade will be on display at two community information sessions:

Saturday 26 October, 12.30pm to 3.30pm
Library Function Centre Blacktown,
Level 1 Max Webber Library Building,
Corner Flushcombe Road and Alpha Street, Blacktown.

Wednesday 6 November, 5.30pm to 8.30pm
Shelley Public School, Hadrian Avenue, Blacktown.

The preliminary concept design will also be on display:

Thursday 14 November, 3pm to 7pm
Westpoint Shopping Centre, 17 Patrick Street, Blacktown.

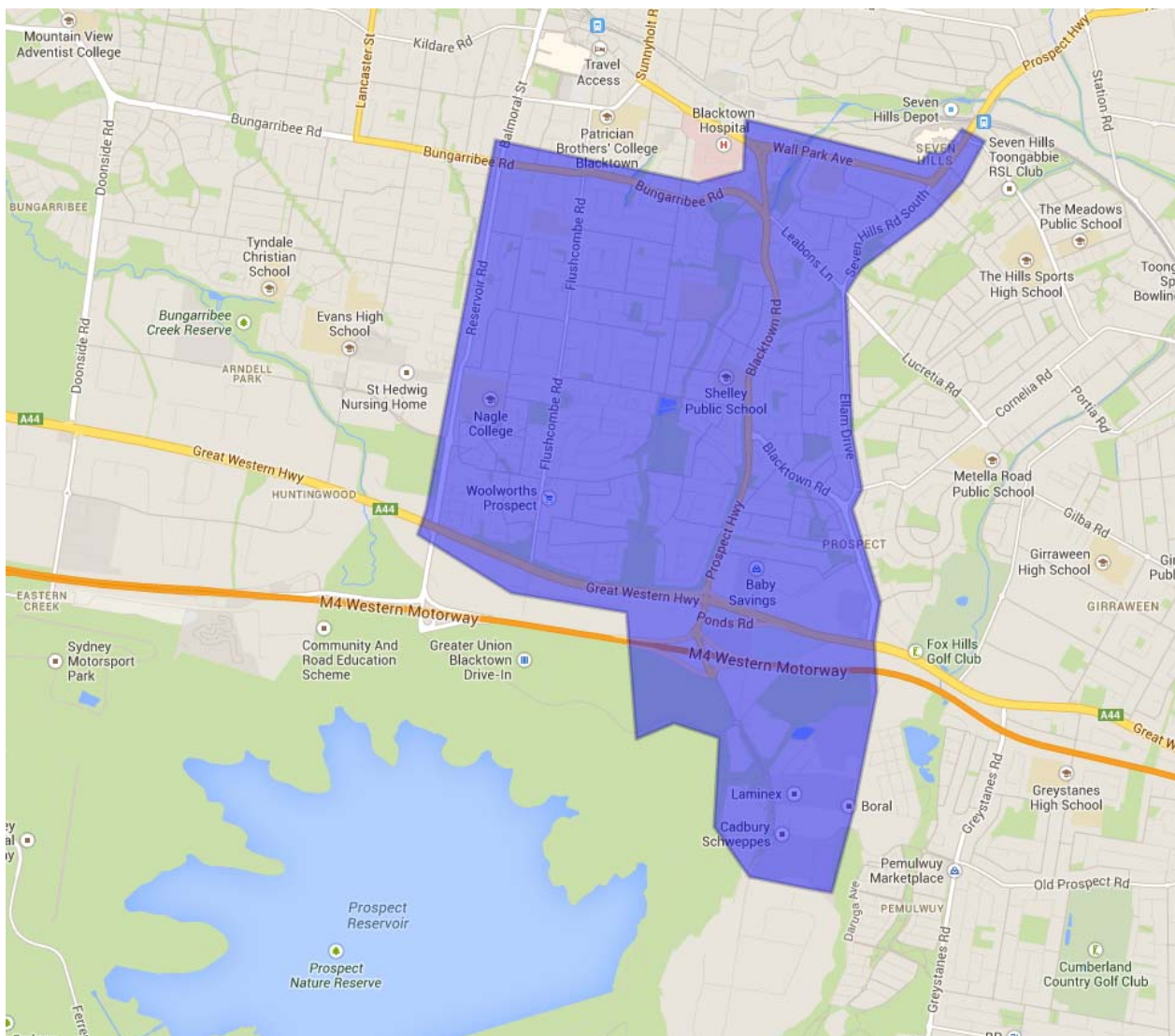
Until 24 November 2013:
Max Webber Library Building,
Corner Flushcombe Road and Alpha Street, Blacktown.
Blacktown City Council, 62 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown.

**For more information call 1300 660 275,
email ProspectHighway@rms.nsw.gov.au
or visit rms.nsw.gov.au/road_projects**

NSW2013

Appendix D – Community update newsletter distribution area

The map below shows the distribution area for the community update flyer. The boundaries are Reservoir Road to the west, Bungarribee Road and Wall Park Avenue to the north, Ellam Drive to the east, and Reconciliation Road and Butu Wargun Drive to the south covering sections of the suburbs of Prospect, Blacktown, Seven Hills and Pemulwuy.



Appendix E – Project webpage

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'Prospect Highway upgrade' project page. The browser's address bar shows the URL: http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects/projects/sydney_region/western_sydney/prospect_highway/index.html. The page title is 'Prospect Highway upgrade - Road Projects - Roads and Maritime Services - Windows Internet Explorer provided by Roads and Traffic'.

The website layout includes a top navigation bar with links for 'ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES', 'LIVE TRAFFIC', and 'YOUTUBE CHANNEL'. A search bar is located in the top right corner. Below the navigation is a main header 'ROAD PROJECTS' with a sub-header 'ROADS AND MARITIME SERVICES'. A secondary navigation menu contains 'HOME', 'PROJECTS', 'COMMUNITY / ENVIRONMENT', 'RESOURCES', and 'CONTACT US'. The breadcrumb trail reads: Home > Projects > Sydney region > Western Sydney > Prospect Highway upgrade.

The main content area is titled 'SYDNEY REGION' and features a sidebar with a list of project categories:

- Bus priority program
- Northern Sydney
- Outer West and Blue Mountains
- South West Sydney
- Southern Sydney
- Western Sydney** (highlighted)
 - Blacktown Cycleway
 - Cumberland Highway, Wentworthville
 - Erskine Park Link Road
 - M4 westbound ramps, Prospect
 - Memorial Avenue Upgrade
 - Nepean River Green Bridge
 - Old Wallgrove Road
 - Penrith road improvements
 - Prospect Highway upgrade** (highlighted)
 - Project documents
 - Richmond Road upgrade
 - Riverstone overpass
 - Russell Street, Leonay
 - Schofields Road upgrade and extension
 - The Northern Road, Cranebrook
 - Victoria Bridge
 - Werrington Arterial Road - stage 1
 - Windsor Bridge replacement
- Pinch point initiatives

The main content area features a large image of a road intersection with a sign for 'PROSPECT HIGHWAY'. Below the image is the 'BACKGROUND' section, which states: 'Roads and Maritime Services is planning for the future upgrade of the Prospect Highway between Reservoir Road at Prospect and St Martins Crescent at Blacktown to meet traffic demand. Preliminary investigations for the Prospect Highway upgrade have included development of a strategic concept design and access strategy. Roads and Maritime recently sought feedback on the preliminary concept design for the upgrade of the Prospect Highway. The consultation period has now closed.'

The 'PHOTO GALLERY' section contains a smaller image of a road with a sign. The 'COMMUNITY UPDATE' section includes a link to a PDF document: 'View or download the [community update](#) (PDF, 500KB)'. Below this, the text reads: 'Roads and Maritime is currently constructing two projects along the Prospect Highway corridor:'

- Upgrade of the intersection of the M4 Western Motorway westbound entry and exit ramps which includes a permanent shared path between M4 Western Motorway bridge and Reservoir Road at Prospect. This work started in January 2013 and is scheduled for completion shortly. This work is being carried out in conjunction with the Wet and Wild Sydney development. Please see the [project web page](#).
- Construction of a temporary shared path along Prospect Highway at Prospect between Harrod Street and the northern side of the

The browser's status bar at the bottom shows 'Trusted sites' and a zoom level of 100%.