



**Transport  
for NSW**

# **New Intercity Fleet**

## **Springwood to Lithgow Rail Corridor Modifications**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **New Intercity Fleet Program**

##### **What is the New Intercity Fleet Program?**

The NSW Government is delivering a New Intercity Fleet to replace the trains carrying customers from Sydney to the Central Coast, Newcastle, the Blue Mountains (including Lithgow) and the South Coast.

##### **Why do we need a New Intercity Fleet?**

The current intercity fleet are some of the oldest trains in the electric fleet and are approaching the end of their lifetime. They would need significant levels of maintenance and refurbishment to remain operational beyond 2019.

##### **What are the customer benefits of the new intercity fleet?**

The new trains are designed with customer comfort in mind. We've asked customers what they wanted and incorporated much of this feedback into the design, including:

- wider seats with arm rests and more space
- charging stations for mobile devices for each seat
- cup holders and tray tables
- two by two seating on upper and lower levels
- dedicated space for luggage, prams, bicycles and wheelchairs
- accessible toilets and baby changing facilities
- digital screens and announcements, CCTV and passenger intercoms
- modern air conditioning.

#### **Springwood to Lithgow Rail Corridor Modifications**

##### **What is the Springwood to Lithgow Rail Corridor Modifications project?**

Transport for NSW is undertaking modifications to the rail network including minor trackwork, changes to signals and platform extensions, where required, from west of Springwood Station to Lithgow Station, to accommodate the New Intercity Fleet.

##### **Why do we need this project?**

The New Intercity Fleet will allow for the replacement of the older electric train fleet currently used to provide intercity services. Modifications to existing rail infrastructure are essential to accommodate the new trains while meeting appropriate safety and design standards.

Currently a number of existing trains do not fit the Blue Mountains Line, and modifications planned as part of the project will bring the line up to the standard of the rest of the electrified rail network.

## **Why is the current fleet being replaced with a fleet which does not fit the Blue Mountains Line?**

The New Intercity Fleet is based on the Oscar trains which were designed in Australia and have been safely operating on the suburban and intercity networks for a number of years.

The Government has bought a train design based on a proven platform and technology. This means we can ensure the best value, best possible service and also deliver these new trains onto the tracks faster.

Modifications planned as part of the project will bring the Blue Mountains Line up to the standard of the rest of the electrified rail network and allow for the safe operation of the New Intercity Fleet trains.

## **What does the project involve?**

Modifications proposed include:

- extension of platforms at Katoomba Station and Lithgow Station
- modifications to station platform edges (also known as platform coping)
- re-positioning of rail tracks at various locations along the length of the rail corridor
- modification of the existing platform canopy at Faulconbridge Station
- signalling works to accommodate the new track position and platform modifications
- adjustment of the overhead wiring system and supporting structures as required.

Designs for platform extensions, platform edge modifications and other upgrades have been, and will continue to be, developed in collaboration with qualified heritage specialists to minimise heritage impacts.

## **What impact will the modifications have on the Ten Tunnel Deviation?**

Plans for modifications to the Ten Tunnels Deviation (the section of track between Newnes Junction Station and Zig Zag Station) to accommodate the New Intercity Fleet are being developed and will be subject to a separate environmental impact assessment.

We will let the community know when the planning documents are available to view for comment.

## **How are the modifications at Mount Victoria Station and Zig Zag Station being delivered?**

Sydney Trains will deliver modifications at Mount Victoria Station and Zig Zag Station to accommodate the new trains.

## **Will any heritage items be impacted by modification works?**

All stations within the project site are listed on the RailCorp Section 170 Heritage and Conservation Register. Also listed on the State Heritage Register are:

- Lawson Station
- Katoomba Station
- Medlow Bath Station
- Blackheath Station
- Eskbank Station (disused station)
- Lithgow Station.

TfNSW will seek approval from the Heritage Council under the Heritage Act 1977 for works at State heritage listed stations.

## How will Transport for NSW protect heritage items?

Transport for NSW understands the importance of protecting heritage items. Potential impacts to State heritage and locally listed items have been assessed as part of the Review of Environmental Factors in accordance with relevant legislation and guidelines.

Designs for platform extensions, platform edge modifications and other upgrades have been, and will continue, to be developed in collaboration with qualified heritage specialists to minimise heritage impacts.

TfNSW will seek approval from the Heritage Council under the *Heritage Act 1977* for works at State heritage listed stations.

## Planning for the project

### What is a Review of Environmental Factors?

Transport for NSW has a statutory responsibility under the *NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* to consider the impacts of activities on the environment.

A REF is prepared to assess the environmental impacts associated with the construction and operation of a project, and outlines measures to minimise impacts to the environment and community.

### When and where will the REF be on public display?

The Springwood to Lithgow Rail Corridor Modifications REF will be on display from **Tuesday 8 August to Tuesday 29 August 2017, 5pm** at the following locations:

- [transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/new-intercity-fleet](http://transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/new-intercity-fleet)
- [nsw.gov.au/improving-nsw/have-your-say/](http://nsw.gov.au/improving-nsw/have-your-say/)
- **Blue Mountains City Council**, 2-6 Civic Place, Katoomba
- **Katoomba Library, Blue Mountains Cultural Centre**, 30 Parke Street, Katoomba
- **Blue Mountains City Council**, 104 Macquarie Rd, Springwood
- **Lithgow City Council**, 180 Mort Street, Lithgow
- **Lithgow Library and Learning Centre**, 157 Main Street, Lithgow
- **Wentworth Falls Library, School of Arts Building**, 217 Great Western Highway, Wentworth Falls.
- **Transport for NSW**, Level 5, Tower A, Zenith Centre, 821 Pacific Highway, Chatswood.

## Providing feedback

### Who can provide feedback on the REF?

All feedback is welcomed. Your feedback will help further develop the project and will be considered where appropriate.

### Can I talk to the project team?

To speak with the project team drop in at the following locations:

**Springwood**, Blue Mountains Theatre and Community Hub, 104 - 108 Macquarie Road

- Friday 11 August, 4pm to 7pm
- Saturday 19 August, 10.30am to 1.30pm

### **Katoomba, Blue Mountains Cultural Centre, 30 Parke Street**

- Saturday 12 August, 10.30am to 1.30pm
- Tuesday 15 August, 4pm to 7pm

### **Lithgow, Lithgow Valley Plaza, Bent and Lithgow Streets**

- Monday 21 August, 3pm to 6pm
- Tuesday 22 August, 12pm to 3pm

If you are unable to attend any of these sessions and would like to talk with the team, please call the Project Infoline on 1800 684 490 or email [projects@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:projects@transport.nsw.gov.au).

### **How can I provide my feedback?**

We want your feedback to help us understand what is important to our customers and the community. Feedback can be sent to:

- [projects@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:projects@transport.nsw.gov.au)
- New Intercity Fleet – Springwood to Lithgow Rail Corridor Modifications  
Associate Director – Environmental Impact Assessment  
Locked Bag 6501  
St Leonards NSW 2065

### **What will happen with my feedback?**

Feedback received during the public display period will assist Transport for NSW in preparing plans for managing any impacts during construction phase of the project.

All feedback received by Transport for NSW will be reviewed and responded to in a Submissions Report. This report will be available to the public later in the year. All those who provided feedback will receive acknowledgement from Transport for NSW that their feedback has been received. They will also be contacted when the Submissions Report is available to view on the Transport for NSW website. Please note Transport for NSW ensures all private information received from the community remains confidential.

### **Construction of the project**

#### **When will the project start/finish?**

Subject to planning approval, construction is expected to start in 2018 and will take approximately two years to complete.

#### **What will be the hours of construction?**

The majority of work would be undertaken during already scheduled Sydney Trains trackwork weekends to minimise impact to the local community and businesses and ensure the safety of our customers and staff.

The affected community and businesses will be advised of any works scheduled to occur outside standard construction hours and mitigation measures would be used in accordance with Transport for NSW's Construction Noise Strategy.

### **What are the potential customer and public access impacts during construction?**

There may be changes to how customers access stations, interchange facilities and adjacent footpaths. Replacement bus services will also be provided during trackwork weekends to maintain the Blue Mountains Line service during these times.

Customers will be notified in advance of these works so that they are able to make alternative travel arrangements if necessary.

### **What are the potential impacts to pedestrians and cyclists during construction?**

Pedestrian and cycling access to and through the station precincts would be maintained during construction. Any changes to access will be appropriately signposted during this time.

### **Will there be any potential impact to local businesses?**

The majority of work would be undertaken during already scheduled Sydney Trains trackwork weekends to minimise impact to the local community and businesses and ensure the safety of our customers and staff.

Every effort will be made to minimise any construction impacts to the local community and businesses.

### **Will there be any potential impact to community events or tourism activities?**

Transport for NSW understands that the Blue Mountains and Lithgow regions are popular tourist destinations and the importance of community events. We will consult key stakeholders including Destination NSW, Blue Mountains City Council, Lithgow City Council, local tourism associations, local chambers of commerce and local businesses to minimise impact on the community and visitors to the area during events.

## **Completion of project**

### **Will the modifications affect the gap between the train and the platform?**

There is always a gap between the platform and the train, and it may not be the same on every station. Platform-to-train boarding ramps are available on the train or on the platform to help customer get on or off safely.

It is anticipated that the New Intercity Fleet and existing intercity trains would run jointly on the Blue Mountains Line until all of the New Intercity Fleet trains are in service. The modification of the station platforms would result in a larger gap being experienced by customers boarding or alighting between the different train sets at certain points along the platform.

Customers can ask to use a boarding ramp if you:

- use a wheelchair or motorised scooter
- are travelling with a pram
- use another type of mobility aid
- need assistance for any other reason.

### **What mitigation measures will be in place for the gap between the train and the platform?**

Temporary measures informing customers of the extra gap between the train and station would be determined during detailed design and implemented during operations to minimise disruptions to customers while both the existing and new fleet are operating on the Blue Mountains Line.

These may include additional station staff, physical platform gap filling solutions and educational programs.

### **When will the New Intercity Fleet come into passenger service?**

The new trains will come into service progressively, with the first trains anticipated to be delivered in 2019.

### **Who will operate the New Intercity Fleet?**

NSW TrainLink will operate the new trains as they come into passenger services.



This document contains important information about public transport 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 Transport Projects Division on **(02) 9200 0200**. The interpreter will then assist you with translation.

For more information call **1800 684 490**  
Email [projects@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:projects@transport.nsw.gov.au) or visit [transport.nsw.gov.au/projects](http://transport.nsw.gov.au/projects)

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