Passenger rail corridors identification

Consultation on recommended corridors of land for the North South Rail Line and the South West Rail Link Extension

Transport for NSW
March 2018
Identifying land for the North South Rail Line and the South West Rail Link Extension corridors

We would like your feedback on the recommended corridors.

Transport for NSW is identifying land for the North South Rail Line and the South West Rail Link Extension corridors which would provide for future passenger rail lines. We are now consulting on the identified land for the recommended corridors.

Western Sydney is undergoing a major transformation. Its population is one of the fastest growing in NSW and planning is underway for the Western Sydney Airport which will create thousands of new jobs and bring additional residents to the region.

Provide your feedback

We are now seeking feedback on the recommended passenger rail corridors for the North South Rail Line and the South West Rail Link Extension by 18 May 2018. You can use the interactive online map to see the corridor locations and provide your feedback at transport.nsw.gov.au/corridors
This section of the corridor will be finalised after the airport layout is determined. Transport for NSW will continue working with the Australian Government on suitable corridor and station locations.
Planning ahead

The NSW Government is planning for the long term transport needs of Western Sydney by identifying and protecting corridors of land that can be used to deliver transport infrastructure in the future, when it is needed.

The NSW Government is committed to supporting integrated land use and transport planning through corridor protection. This is a key priority identified in the NSW Long Term Transport Master Plan, Greater Sydney Region Plan, District Plans, the Western Sydney Rail Needs Study and Future Transport 2056 which will guide how we deliver transport services, infrastructure and technology in NSW over the next 40 years. Early identification of these corridors will help allow the community to have confidence in their planning and property decisions for many years to come.
Investigating transport corridors

Transport for NSW is currently consulting on other transport corridors across Western Sydney. For more information visit transport.nsw.gov.au/corridors
About the passenger rail corridors

Transport for NSW has identified recommended corridors for the North South Rail Line and the South West Rail Link Extension for future passenger rail in Sydney’s west.

The passenger rail corridors have also been identified in the Western Sydney Rail Needs Study to support the planned Western Sydney Airport and suburbs across Western Sydney. For information about the Western Sydney Rail Needs Scoping Study and the identified rail options visit [transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects western-sydney-rail-needs](http://transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/western-sydney-rail-needs)

The corridor for the South West Rail Link Extension will extend from Leppington Station to North Bringelly for connections to the North South Rail Line corridor.

The North South Rail Line will provide a passenger rail connection between the Main West Line near St Marys and the Main South Line near Macarthur.

Tunnel sections have been identified between St Marys and south of the M4 Motorway, and between Oran Park and the Main South Line near Macarthur to avoid existing communities and to preserve bushland.

Land at Oran Park and Narellan has been identified for potential future train stations.

Recommended passenger rail corridors have been identified in collaboration with the Australian Government, the Greater Sydney Commission and Department of Planning and Environment to support population, housing and job growth across Western Sydney. It will also ensure appropriate transport solutions are planned for the Western Sydney Airport which will be a catalyst for generating a range of new jobs and will enable people to work closer to home.

The final corridor alignment north and south of the planned Western Sydney Airport will be informed by the final airport layout which will be determined in 2018. The NSW Government will continue working with the Australian Government to identify a suitable corridor and station locations to serve the Western Sydney Airport and the surrounding Western Sydney suburbs.

In the future, there will be more investigations to extend the passenger rail corridor between St Marys and Schofields, and identifying suitable station locations along the passenger rail corridors.
What is the benefit of identifying land for passenger rail corridors?

Identifying land now means that we can deliver the transport solutions we need for the future. Protecting the North South Rail Line and the South West Rail Link Extension corridors means we can build passenger rail lines when they are needed to serve customers in suburbs across Western Sydney. Transport for NSW is responding to the growth of Western Sydney by planning ahead. Once land is identified we need to ensure it is protected from future development so the passenger rail lines can be built when they are needed.

The future passenger rail lines would:

- Provide a major transport link between the North West, Western Sydney, South West and Greater Macarthur Growth Areas.
- Provide transport options to support population, jobs and economic growth across Western Sydney and for the planned Western Sydney Airport.
- Support future town centres to be designed and planned around future transport infrastructure.

Why do we need future passenger rail corridors?

Our community and economy is growing. Transport for NSW is supporting this growth by planning for the North South Rail Line and the South West Rail Link Extension corridors to ensure land is available to deliver this vital transport infrastructure when it is needed.

Construction of the passenger rail lines may not happen for many years; however identifying and protecting land now means the community and stakeholders will have certainty and know exactly where the infrastructure will be built in the future.
What is corridor protection?

Corridor protection is a process to identify and protect land that can be used for future infrastructure purposes. Community consultation is a key part of this process and ensures that local constraints and opportunities are fully understood.

The process has identified a recommended North South Rail Line corridor between the Main West Line near St Marys and the Main South Line near Macarthur, and a recommended South West Rail Link Extension corridor between Leppington and North Bringelly. Following further consultation with property owners, the final corridor will be recommended to the Department of Planning and Environment for protection.

When will land be acquired for the rail corridors?

There is a lot of planning work to be done before any land is acquired for the future passenger rail lines. At this stage we are consulting with landowners, community and stakeholders on the recommended corridors for the North South Rail Line corridor between the Main West Line near St Marys and the Main South Line near Macarthur, and the South West Rail Link Extension between Leppington and North Bringelly. This feedback will be used to help refine the recommended corridors.

Property acquisition generally occurs just before the construction of infrastructure and this may be many years or decades away. In the meantime, existing land and property uses can continue.

Once the passenger rail corridors have been confirmed and the process to protect them complete, there is the opportunity for property owners to consider owner-initiated early acquisition under the Land Acquisition (Just Terms Compensation) Act 1991 before the land is needed by the government. The land valuation and acquisition process will be fair, consistent and transparent with the market value of the property assessed at the time of acquisition.
How were the recommended corridors chosen?

The recommended corridors for the North South Rail Line and the South West Rail Link Extension were identified following community consultation with consideration of key land use, property and environmental constraints across a broad study area.

In 2015, Transport for NSW consulted community members and groups, councils, representative bodies, businesses and residents on the recommended South West Rail Link Extension corridor and study areas over a ten week period. More than 1,560 comments and submissions were received from the community. We held four community drop-in sessions for members of the community to speak with the investigation team.

The corridor investigation process identified passenger rail corridors that:

- Minimise impacts on communities and the environment wherever possible.
- Minimise impacts on residential areas including villages, new communities and housing areas wherever possible.
- Minimise the impact on ecologically significant areas wherever possible.
- Protect rural amenity and heritage areas as much as possible.
- Avoid heritage conservation lands and conservation areas wherever possible.
- Minimise the impact on major facilities such as schools, universities, hospitals and critical public infrastructure including existing rail lines, motorways and roads, major power lines and sewerage infrastructure.
Next steps

Feedback from the consultation will help to refine the recommended passenger rail corridors.

2014
- Consult on a broad study area
- Review community feedback
- Progress early technical investigations
- Understand the constraints and opportunities to identify a corridor
- Airport site announced at Badgerys Creek

2015
- Consult on recommended corridor and study areas
- Western Sydney Airport planning progresses for consultation

2016
- Planning for the Draft Future Transport 2056, Draft Greater Sydney Region Plan and Draft District Plans to inform integrated land use and transport planning
- Consult on Draft District Plans
- Consult on the Western Sydney Rail Needs Scoping Study
- Environmental Impact Statement for the Western Sydney Airport released

2017
- Draft Future Transport 2056, Draft Greater Sydney Region Plan and Draft District Plans released for consultation and feedback
- City Deals program discussions underway with NSW Government and Local Councils

2018
- Identify a recommended corridor with consideration to community feedback and key land uses
- Finalise and release Future Transport 2056, Greater Sydney Region Plan and District Plans
- Consult on an identified recommended corridor for protection
- Review community feedback and refine the recommended corridors
- Corridor protected through relevant environmental planning process
- Property owners within the corridor provided with further information and next steps discussed

Medium and long term
- Community consultation and environmental assessments before construction
- Progress property acquisition before construction of infrastructure
- Project delivery and associated community involvement
Have your say
Provide your feedback on the recommended corridors for the North South Rail Line and the South West Rail Link Extension by 18 May 2018.

Visit the website for more information
transport.nsw.gov.au/corridors

Use the interactive online map to see the locations of the corridors and to provide your feedback
transport.nsw.gov.au/corridors

Email
corridors@transport.nsw.gov.au

Write
Corridor Investigation Office
Transport for NSW
PO Box K659
Haymarket NSW 1240

Call
1800 837 511

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 Corridor Investigation Office on 1800 837 511. The interpreter will then assist you with translation.