Western Sydney Freight Line corridor identification

Consultation on a recommended corridor of land for a future freight rail line between the M7 Motorway and the planned Outer Sydney Orbital’s freight rail corridor near Luddenham

Transport for NSW
March 2018
Identifying land for the Western Sydney Freight Line corridor

We would like your feedback on the recommended corridor between the M7 Motorway and the planned Outer Sydney Orbital’s freight rail corridor near Luddenham.

Transport for NSW is identifying land for the Western Sydney Freight Line corridor which would provide for a future freight rail line to connect Port Botany and Western Sydney. We are now consulting on the identified land for the recommended corridor between the M7 Motorway and the planned Outer Sydney Orbital’s freight rail corridor near Luddenham.

Western Sydney is undergoing major transformation. Its population is one of the fastest growing in NSW and planning is underway for the Western Sydney Airport and surrounding employment lands 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 corridor between the M7 Motorway and the planned Outer Sydney Orbital’s freight rail corridor near Luddenham by 1 May 2018. You can use the interactive online map to see the corridor location and provide your feedback at transport.nsw.gov.au/corridors
Transport for NSW will continue working with the Greater Sydney Commission, Department of Planning and Environment, local councils, community and stakeholders to refine the recommended corridor.
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, NSW Freight and Ports Strategy, Draft Greater Sydney Region Plan, Draft District Plans and the Draft 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

About the Western Sydney Freight Line corridor

Transport for NSW is identifying land for the Western Sydney Freight Line corridor in Sydney’s west.

The corridor will extend between the existing Southern Sydney Freight Line at Leightonfield and Villawood to the Outer Sydney Orbital’s freight rail corridor to enable the future transfer of goods across Western Sydney.

A recommended Western Sydney Freight Line corridor has been identified between the M7 Motorway and the planned Outer Sydney Orbital’s freight rail corridor near Luddenham. Transport for NSW is currently consulting and seeking feedback on this section of the Western Sydney Freight Line corridor.

A separate consultation is underway for the recommended Outer Sydney Orbital corridor. More information is available at transport.nsw.gov.au/corridors.

A recommended corridor has been identified in collaboration with the Greater Sydney Commission and Department of Planning and Environment. This integrated freight solution looks at how we distribute the goods and services we use every day. It will also ensure appropriate freight rail solutions are planned for the Western Sydney Priority Growth Area that includes the Western Sydney Airport and surrounding employment lands which will be a catalyst for generating a range of new jobs and will enable people to work closer to home.

More investigation is needed before we can identify a recommended corridor of land between the existing Southern Sydney Freight Line at Leightonfield near Villawood, and the M7 Motorway. This area will be subject to integrated land use and transport planning to understand how the future freight rail line can serve employment lands and stimulate more employment opportunities in the future. We will continue to collaborate with the Greater Sydney Commission, Department of Planning and Environment and Councils. A separate consultation process with landowners, community and stakeholders will be undertaken for the remaining section of the Western Sydney Freight Line corridor.
What is the benefit of identifying land for the corridor?

Identifying land now means that we can deliver the transport solutions we need for the future. Protecting the Western Sydney Freight Line corridor means we can build a freight rail line when it is needed, to ensure the efficient movement of freight to 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.

A future freight rail line would:
- Provide a freight rail connection between Port Botany and Western Sydney.
- Support the movement of container and bulk freight by rail across Greater Sydney.
- Provide freight rail connections to serve employment lands and future industries across the Western Sydney Priority Growth Area.
- Support the further separation of freight and passenger rail.
- Support the growth of freight and the logistics industry in Western Sydney.

Why do we need a corridor for a future freight rail line?

Our community and economy is growing. Transport for NSW is supporting this growth by planning for the Western Sydney Freight Line corridor to ensure land is available to deliver vital transport infrastructure when it is needed.

Construction of the freight rail line may not be needed 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.

This process has identified a recommended Western Sydney Freight Line corridor between the M7 Motorway and the planned Outer Sydney Orbital’s freight rail corridor near Luddenham. 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 Western Sydney Freight Line corridor?

There is a lot of planning work to be done before any land is acquired for future freight rail. At this stage we are consulting with landowners, community and stakeholders on the recommended corridor between the M7 Motorway and the planned Outer Sydney Orbital’s freight rail corridor near Luddenham. This feedback will be used to help refine the recommended corridor.

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 corridor has been confirmed and the process to protect it is 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 was the recommended corridor chosen?

The recommended corridor between the M7 Motorway and the planned Outer Sydney Orbital near Luddenham was identified with consideration of key land use, property and environmental constraints across a broad area. The corridor investigation process identified a freight rail corridor that can:

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

Does the Western Sydney Freight Line corridor include an intermodal terminal?

In the future, the Western Sydney Freight Line corridor may encourage investment in a new Western Sydney intermodal terminal to support future freight needs. At this stage we are not consulting on an intermodal terminal site for the Western Sydney Freight Line corridor. Intermodal terminal sites are generally delivered and operated by the private sector.
Next steps

Feedback from the consultation will help to refine the recommended corridor between the M7 Motorway and the planned Outer Sydney Orbital corridor near Luddenham.

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
- Environment 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 between M7 and Outer Sydney Orbital corridor with consideration to land uses
- Consult on an identified recommended corridor for protection
- Review community feedback and refine the recommended corridor
- Corridor protected through relevant environmental planning process
- Finalise and release Future Transport 2056, Greater Sydney Region Plan and District Plans
- Property owners within the corridor provided with further information and next steps discussed
- Identify recommended corridor between Southern Sydney Freight Line and the M7 for community consultation

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 Western Sydney Freight Line corridor between M7 and the planned Outer Sydney Orbital corridor near Luddenham by 1 May 2018.

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

Use the interactive online map to see the corridor location 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

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