

Frequently asked questions Brookvale Pedestrian Bridge

Where is the Pedestrian Bridge located?

The new pedestrian bridge spans Pittwater Road from the side of the Brookvale Community Health Centre (BCHC) across to the bus stops outside Westfield Warringah Mall, improving traffic flow and providing safer accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists.

What are the features of the pedestrian bridge?

The pedestrian bridge is made of structural steel and is 34 metres long, 4.4 metres wide and 6 metres high.

Other features to support the pedestrian bridge include:

- lifts to accommodate up to 21 passengers, as well as scooters, bicycles, wheelchairs and prams
- a roof over the bridge span to protect users from the elements
- two 'power sliding gates' and pedestrian fencing to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists by preventing access to cross at the traffic signals at the intersection of Pittwater Road and William Street
- an additional shelter northbound to improve existing coverage at the outbound bus stops
- bicycle parking facilities including an undercover bike shed at the BCHC

How much did the pedestrian bridge cost to build?

The cost of the pedestrian bridge is part of the overall B-Line project cost of \$512 million.

Who built the pedestrian bridge?

Transport for NSW, is managing the construction and installation of the new pedestrian bridge and removal of the operation of the at-grade signalised pedestrian crossing on Pittwater Road near William Street, Brookvale. Downer, our construction contractor was engaged to complete the works.

How long did the pedestrian bridge take to build?

Construction of the pedestrian bridge started in June 2019 and took about seven months to complete.

When will the bridge be open for the public to use?

Main construction work for the new Brookvale pedestrian bridge is now complete. The bridge will be open for use from 24 December 2019, and can be accessed via stairs and lifts near the bus stops on each side of Pittwater Road.

Following the opening of the bridge on 24 December, additional works will be completed in the coming weeks including:

- installation of two 'power sliding' gates and pedestrian fencing to prohibit pedestrian access onto Pittwater Road at this location, thereby improving safety for both pedestrians and cyclists

- installation and opening of an additional shelter at the northbound bus stops to improve existing coverage
- work will continue to construct a new dedicated left-hand turn northbound into Cross Street from Pittwater Road. This work is planned for completion by mid-2020 and will also improve northbound traffic flow in the area.

Can I still use the pedestrian lights to cross the road?

Temporarily yes. Until the power sliding gates are installed in mid - January and the signalised pedestrian crossing is closed, pedestrians and cyclists can continue to cross here using the signals until that work is complete.

At completion of these works in the New Year, to further improve safety and traffic flow, the signalised crossing near William Street will be permanently closed, and pedestrians and cyclist will need to use the stairs or lifts to access either side of Pittwater Road.

How will the community benefit from the pedestrian bridge?

Brookvale is a busy public transport interchange, retail and health precinct regularly used by bus customers, pedestrians and cyclists, as well as general traffic. The new pedestrian bridge and associated infrastructure will improve safety and traffic flow through this area.

On a typical weekday, close to 5,000 pedestrians cross the road at this intersection to catch buses, access shops, parking and other community health services. An average of 35,000 cars also travel through this busy intersection on any given weekday.

The opening of the new bridge means that pedestrians no longer have to wait for the traffic signals to cross Pittwater Road. The bridge can be accessed at any time via lifts and stairs at either side of Pittwater Road.

The pedestrian light phasing has been removed and two failsafe gates have been installed to prevent crossing. This allows more green light time for traffic on Pittwater Road, helping improve traffic flow and reduce congestion in this area.

What are 'fail-safe' pedestrian gates '?

Failsafe gates are 'power sliding gates' required to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists by preventing crossing at the at-grade crossing and directing them to cross Pittwater Road at the pedestrian bridge. The gates can be opened manually if the lift becomes inoperable.

Does the Brookvale pedestrian bridge cater for cyclists?

Yes. Bicycle parking facilities are provided on both sides near the bridge landings. The lifts also accommodate bicycles.

What safety measures have been considered for the operation of the pedestrian bridge?

The safety of the community is a priority in the design, construction and operation of the pedestrian bridge.

Safety measures include an extensive CCTV presence with cameras surveying across the bridge, the interior of the lifts, foyer areas and stairs. This is in addition to existing CCTV at the bus shelters, Brookvale Community Health Centre and Westfield shopping centre.

Clear signage will alert pedestrians that cameras are monitoring the area, which has proven a successful deterrent for similar infrastructure. Lighting design has been considered to provide illumination to Australian Standards and the lifts will also have installed with help point buttons in the instance of a breakdown.

The pedestrian bridge was designed in line with CPTED requirements (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design), using a 'see through' material that allows for passive surveillance from the street.
