Transport for NSW



Frequently Asked Questions

What is happening?

Transport for NSW is proposing to install traffic signals at the Princes Highway and South Street intersection in Ulladulla. Additional pedestrian safety improvements are also planned to be installed at the Princes Highway and Wason Street intersection in Ulladulla.

The installation of traffic signals would improve efficiency and reliability of the Princes Highway during peak periods, deliver safer journeys for all transport customers and improve the connectivity to local shops and services.

Why are traffic signals being proposed to be installed on the Princes Highway and South Street intersection?

The need for intersection improvements is based on community feedback received from the 2018 Milton and Ulladulla Traffic Study. Transport for NSW sought feedback from the community about their experience using the highway through Milton and Ulladulla in December 2017 and January 2018. A total of 418 comments were received from 204 users.

As part of this study, key feedback identified the Princes Highway and South Street intersection in Ulladulla as a saftey concern, with the following issues being identified:

- The difficulty of making a right-hand turn
- Unsafe movements as motorists take risks
- 45-degree angle car parking restricts visibility turning onto the highway
- Increased traffic demand for accessing businesses on South Street.

The traffic signals will control the flow of traffic around the intersection and will control pedestrian movements in this high traffic area near the Ulladulla Shopping Centre. Converting the existing parking from 45-degree angle parking to parallel parking will improve visibility for vehicles entering and exiting South Street onto the Princes Highway.

Why are traffic signals the preferred option?

Since 2018 when the Traffic Study was carried out, Transport has reviewed the key findings and has considered the current and anticipated future conditions of the Princes Highway in this location.

Planning for the Milton Ulladulla bypass continues, and Transport has factored in future anticipated traffic volumes and pedestrian safety at this location once the bypass is built. The bypass will remove some traffic from the highway, however, however safety concerns at this intersection will remain without an intersection upgrade.

All options considered during the Traffic Study have been recently reviewed, and the installation of traffic signals remains the most effective option to deliver the safest community outcome due to the following key benefits:

- Traffic signals provide the safest pedestrian connectivity
- Traffic signals provide the highest level of pedestrian accessibility
- Traffic signals best facilitate the movement of pedestrians around the retail/commercial precinct of Ulladulla
- Traffic signals provide similar levels of improvement to vehicle safety, compared to a roundabout, by giving each direction of travel a dedicated time to enter the intersection
- Traffic signals provide similar levels of traffic efficiency improvements, compared to a roundabout
- Traffic signals fit within the existing road corridor and do not require acquisition of nearby properties (a roundabout might result in acquisition of property)
- Traffic signals align with Shoalhaven City Council's planning for Ulladulla and have been endorsed by the Shoalhaven City Council's Traffic Committee.

What other options have been considered?

Four options were considered during the Transport Study, with the following considerations and recommendations:

Options considered	Description	Recommendation
Option 1	Retain existing intersection but remove on-street parking (to improve vision at the intersection)	Not recommended as this option provides minimal safety improvements, no improvement to pedestrian connectivity, and no improvement to traffic efficiency.
Option 2	Signalise intersection (traffic signals) on the Princes Highway (and South Street) to enable all traffic movements	Identified as the preferred option due to improved pedestrian safety and connectivity outcomes compared with other options.
Option 3	Upgrade the intersection to a roundabout	Not recommended due to the gradient (steepness) of the Princes Highway and associated construction constraints. Property acquisition may be required depending on the roundabout design.
Option 4	No right-turn movement (when turning from South Street onto the Princes Highway)	Not recommended as safety is only minimally improved, pedestrian activity is not improved and traffic efficiency is minimally improved.

How many parking spots will need to be adjusted to facilitate this design?

The installation of traffic signals (including associated work to road and guttering) will result in the reduction of parking spots. Existing parking spots will need to be converted from 45-degree to parallel parking as part of this process. There are currently 54 parking spaces in the project area, and this will be reduced to 30 spaces. To assist community members, Transport would provide more signage to nearby carparks to help locals and visitors find parking in the area.

What consultation has been done previously?

Initial consultation with nearby businesses and key stakeholders including Shoalhaven City Council took place in September 2021, and the proposed traffic signals were tabled to Shoalhaven City Council's Traffic Committee on 13 June 2023. The Committee supported the installation, and recommended Transport for NSW carry out community and business consultation prior to work commencing.

Transport has spoken with some local businesses, however further consultation with businesses and the wider community is planned to discuss the proposed design and impacts. Community feedback will be considered prior to any work starting.

What improvements are going to take place near the Princes Highway and Wason Street intersection?

Additional pedestrian ramps will be installed near the Wason Street intersection to help improve pedestrian access to central Ulladulla. This is based on community feedback from the 2018 Milton and Ulladulla Traffic Study where community members requested safer locations to cross the Princes Highway in central Ulladulla.

Will this impact the Milton Ulladulla bypass?

This proposed safety improvement project has no impact on the ongoing development and planning of the Milton Ulladulla bypass.

In 2021, Transport installed traffic signals on the Princes Highway in Milton. Safety improvement projects, such as the proposed traffic signals, are part of Transport's commitment to delivering a safer, more reliable, and better-connected transport network in the South Coast in the short-term.

A timeframe for construction of the bypass is yet to be confirmed. For more information about the Milton Ulladulla bypass, visit the project <u>webpage</u>.