



Australian Government

**BUILDING OUR FUTURE**



Transport for NSW

# Great Western Highway Upgrade Program

## Medlow Bath Upgrade Review of Environmental Factors

### Pedestrians and cyclists fact sheet

July 2021



Pedestrians and cyclists will benefit from a new shared pathway in Medlow Bath (image credit: Spackman Mossop Michaels)

Together the Australian and NSW Governments are investing more than \$4.5 billion towards upgrading the Great Western Highway between Katoomba and Lithgow. The Great Western Highway Upgrade will reduce congestion, deliver safer, more efficient and reliable journeys for those travelling in, around and through the Blue Mountains, and better connect communities in the Central West.

Improvements to road, pedestrian and cycling infrastructure will provide safe access and amenity benefits for Medlow Bath residents.

Pedestrians and cyclists will benefit from the addition of an overhead pedestrian bridge, a shared pedestrian/cyclist path adjacent to the westbound carriageway, and additional pedestrian connections to the station from residential and recreational land.

Transport for NSW (Transport) is presenting a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) and Concept Design for the Medlow Bath Upgrade for community consultation from 26 July to 24 August 2021.

We invite the Medlow Bath community and other interested stakeholders to submit feedback to help inform next steps for the proposal.



**New shared pathway**

**Pedestrian bridge**



**Improved connections**

## Shared pathway

A shared pedestrian and cyclist path next to the west-bound lane of the Highway will cater for pedestrians and recreational cyclists.

The concept design now provides better separation between the shared pathway and the Highway, with a one-metre vegetated buffer between the path and an additional 1.5 metre shoulder.

This will ensure that pedestrians and cyclists are at least 2.5 metres away from traffic on the Highway. The road shoulder will also provide space for vehicle breakdowns and on-road cyclists.

Transport is committed to providing walking and cycling connections that link to existing trails and path networks in the Blue Mountains. The shared path in Medlow Bath will connect with the existing Great Blue Mountains Trail network between Katoomba and Blackheath.



The railway level crossing and pedestrian refuge on the Highway will be replaced by a new pedestrian bridge (images credit: Mott MacDonald)

## Pedestrian bridge

The addition of a pedestrian bridge above the Highway and railway will allow us to remove the pedestrian level crossing on the railway line, in line with current safety guidelines across NSW. This will let pedestrians and cyclists safely cross the railway line and the Highway without any interaction with trains or vehicles.

## Improved connections

Improved pedestrian connections around Medlow Bath train station will provide increased pedestrian accessibility to the station and promote safe connections between residential, recreational and commercial land in the area.

The pedestrian upgrades will also allow better transitions between modes of transport, safer kiss and ride drop-offs, and traffic calming through landscaping and pedestrian path design.





Artist's representation of proposed Medlow Bath Upgrade pedestrian bridge

### **When we are building**

We are not expecting walking or cycling to be substantially impacted during construction of the Medlow Bath Upgrade.

Pedestrians and cyclists might experience some short-term changes to access due to diversions or re-routing during construction.

We will make sure walkers and cyclists are able to move around Medlow Bath and that the community can continue to access recreational facilities and historical points of interest in the town.

### **Reducing the impact of our work**

We will divert or re-route pathways during construction to make sure that pedestrian access is maintained at all times.

We will make sure that sites are returned to the same, or better, condition than prior to construction as quickly as possible and we will remove all equipment as soon as we can when construction is complete.

## What is an REF?

Transport has legal obligations to assess and mitigate impacts that may result from a proposed activity. An REF details these legal obligations, and the environmental impacts and mitigation measures of a project. Feedback on this REF will inform the approval of the proposed Medlow Bath Upgrade.

## What is a Concept Design?

The Concept Design is a project design that is developed in sufficient detail to allow an assessment of likely environmental, social and economic impacts so that stakeholders can consider the proposed project and provide feedback. The concept design may change based on feedback provided by stakeholders.

### View the REF and Concept Design

You can view the Medlow Bath Upgrade REF and Concept Design at our virtual consultation room at [nswroads.work/gwhdconsult](https://nswroads.work/gwhdconsult)

### Have your say

We will hold online consultation sessions where you can ask our team any questions you have and tell us what you think.

**We recommend that you view the REF and Concept Design before you speak with the team or make a submission.**

### Speak to the project team

**Wednesday 28 July** 1.00–2.30pm  
**Saturday 31 July** 12.30–2.00pm

**Tuesday 3 August** 6.30–8.00pm  
**Thursday 5 August** 6.30–8.00pm

Register for our Microsoft Teams live-stream consultation sessions at [nswroads.work/gwhdconsult](https://nswroads.work/gwhdconsult)

Contact us on **1800 953 777** or [gwhd@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:gwhd@transport.nsw.gov.au) to book a personal phone consultation if you prefer.

### Face-to-face consultation

As COVID-19 restrictions are once again in place, we regret we are unlikely to be able to offer face-to-face consultation at this time.

Consultation will be held online to ensure your safety and comply with COVID-19 restrictions.

If restrictions ease before consultation ends we will organise face-to-face consultation, in line with existing guidelines at that time.

### How to make a formal submission

We welcome all feedback on the Medlow Bath Upgrade REF and Concept Design.

To have your input formally considered, and receive a response in the consultation report, use our online submission form at [nswroads.work/gwhdconsult](https://nswroads.work/gwhdconsult) or mail a printed submission to:

Great Western Highway Upgrade Program  
Medlow Bath Upgrade REF & Concept  
Design PO Box 2332, Orange NSW 2800

**Consultation and exhibition is open from 26 July - 24 August. All formal submissions must be received by midnight, 24 August.**

## Contact us

Sign up for our eNewsletter online at [nswroads.work/gwhd](https://nswroads.work/gwhd) and you'll never miss a project update.

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