



# Frequently Asked Questions

## Wakehurst Parkway Improvements

November 2023



Transport for NSW acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Northern Beaches on which we work and pays respect to Elders past and present.

Transport for NSW proposes to carry out road improvements along Wakehurst Parkway between Frenchs Forest Road, Frenchs Forest and Pittwater Road, North Narrabeen. These include intersection upgrades and focus on improving safety and capacity for this key road link in Sydney's Northern Beaches.

### General questions

#### What is a Review of Environmental Factors (REF)?

The REF describes the key features of the Wakehurst Parkway proposal and assesses the potential environmental, social, economic, and cumulative impacts during construction and operation. The REF also makes recommendations on measures to manage and minimise potential impacts from the project.

#### What are the proposed improvements?

Three priority locations have been identified for safety and capacity improvements on Wakehurst Parkway:

- Trefoil Creek to Dreadnought Road intersection
- Dreadnought Road to Oxford Falls Road
- Elanora Road and Mirrool Street.

#### Why is an upgrade needed?

Wakehurst Parkway is an important road corridor connecting the communities of the Northern Beaches. Currently, sections of Wakehurst Parkway are subject to congestion, delays and have an extensive crash history.

In late 2022, Transport carried out a corridor review which investigated safety and capacity initiatives across 9.5 kilometres of Wakehurst Parkway between Frenchs Forest Road and Pittwater Road.

This identified the three priority locations where Transport for NSW could improve safety and capacity.

#### What are the proposal's key features?

##### South between Dreadnought Road and Oxford Falls Road

- New southbound right turn bay at Oxford Falls Road
- Additional lane in both directions between Dreadnought Road and Oxford Falls Road
- New southbound left turn lane into Dreadnought Road
- New bus stop connection points for northbound and southbound travel at Dreadnought Road intersection.

##### South between Dreadnought Road and Trefoil Creek

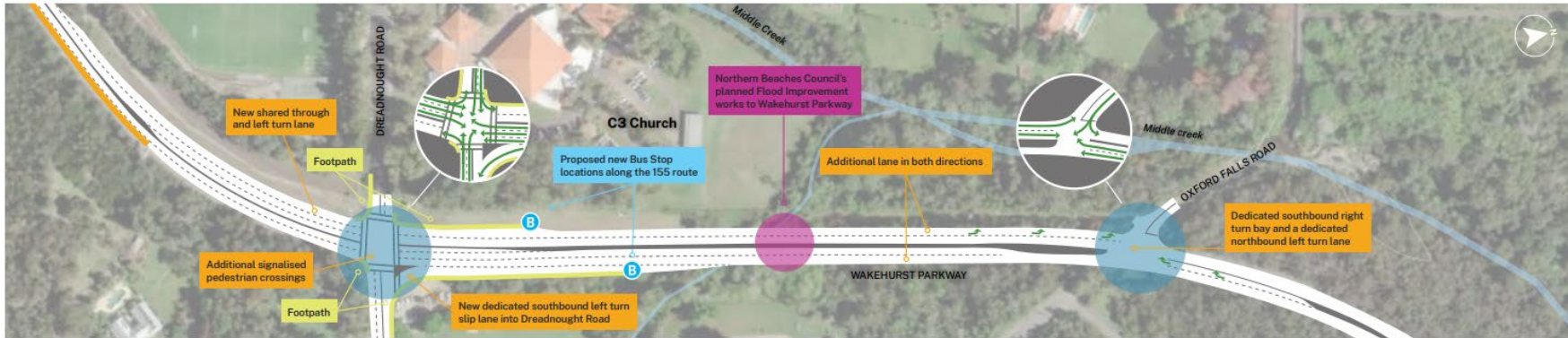
- Widening the southbound carriageway between Oxford Falls Road and Frenchs Forest Road to create dual lanes.

##### North at Elanora Road and Mirrool Street

- Shoulder widening southbound to allow traffic to pass vehicles turning right into Mirrool Street, and creating new northbound left turn lane into Mirrool Street
- Relocating the existing give way line and kerb line at Elanora Road intersection.

# Proposed improvements

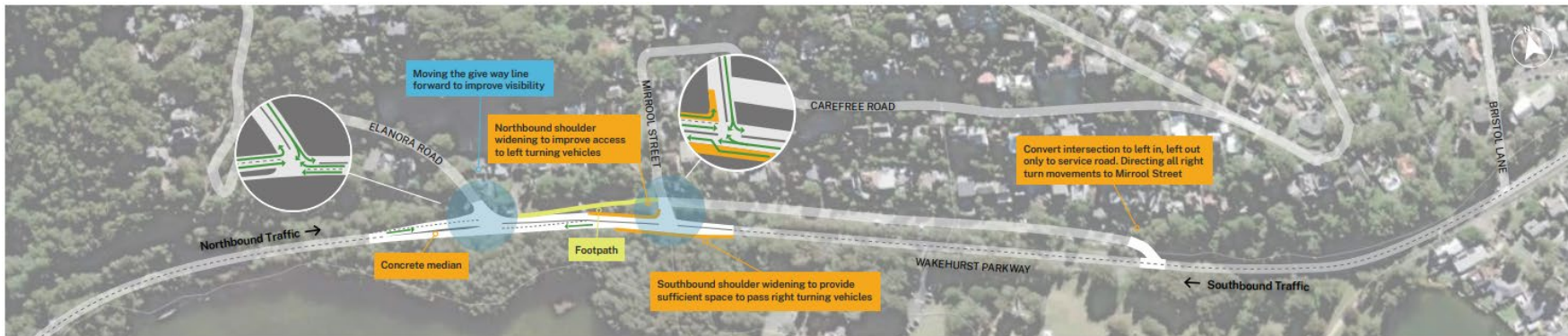
## South - between Dreadnought Road and Oxford Falls Road



## South - between Dreadnought Road and Trefoil Creek



## North - at Elanora Road and Mirrool Street



## What are the benefits of the proposal?

- Improve network efficiency and increase traffic flow of the Wakehurst Parkway corridor
- Improve capacity for future traffic growth
- Improve active transport accessibility by installing cycle lanes on approach to the Dreadnought Road Signals and further providing about 2.5 kilometres of shoulder for safer vehicle and cyclist journeys
- Encourage the use of public and active transport by including two new bus stops which will provide increased access for residents traveling between Frenchs Forest, Narrabeen, Mona Vale, and Bayview.

## How will the proposal be funded?

The NSW Government has committed \$75 million to improving safety and capacity on Wakehurst Parkway.

## Were other options considered?

Transport investigated several options to upgrade key areas of Wakehurst Parkway. Please refer to the Chapter 2 of the Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the options considered.

## Community consultation

### What community and stakeholder consultation has been carried out so far?

In November 2022, Transport announced the proposal, and the community was notified via the project website, letterbox drop and a media release.

We will be carrying out a range of different community engagement activities as part of the REF public display including meeting with stakeholders, doorknocking residents, and attending pop-up sessions.

You can view the REF, Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) and proposed improvements to Wakehurst Parkway at [transport.nsw.gov.au/wakehurst](https://transport.nsw.gov.au/wakehurst)

You can also contact the project team at any time via email or phone, see contact details below.

## How can I have my say on the proposed improvements?

We welcome all feedback on the Wakehurst Parkway REF, BDAR and proposed improvements.

To have your say please send through your feedback in writing to [northplace@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:northplace@transport.nsw.gov.au) by **5pm Wednesday 6 December**.

If you do not have access to a computer or would prefer to mail your feedback to us, please call the team on **1800 684 490**.

## Where can I meet the team to ask questions?

Join us at one of our pop up sessions:

### Thursday 16 November

3pm to 6pm Oxford Falls Main Hall  
Oxford Falls Peace Park, Oxford Falls

### Saturday 18 December

10am to 2pm  
Bilarong Community Hall, Narrabeen

Drop in anytime to meet the team and find out more about the project.

## What happens when I make a formal submission?

Transport will collate and consider the submissions received during public display of the REF and BDAR.

A Submissions Report will be developed and made publicly available, which will respond to all submissions received and outline any changes to the project as a result of feedback received.

After consideration of submissions received, Transport will determine whether the proposal should proceed as proposed and will inform the community and stakeholders of this decision.

If the proposal is determined to proceed, Transport will continue to consult with the community and stakeholders prior to and during construction.

## How do I get regular updates on the project?

Contact the project team on **1800 684 490** or email [northplace@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:northplace@transport.nsw.gov.au) and ask to be added to the distribution list.

## Public Transport

### What improvements are being proposed for public and active transport?

Public transport access for residents travelling to and from Oxford Falls would be improved through the provision of bus stops in both directions on Wakehurst Parkway to the north of the Dreadnought Road intersection. The proposal further provides new footpath connections to these bus stops and improved localised pedestrian connectivity at Dreadnought Road signals on all four sides of the intersection.

Dreadnought Road intersection would also be upgraded to have dedicated on-road cycling lanes on approach to the signals in both directions providing improved safety for cyclists.

Provision of a 2.5 metre shoulder in areas of road widening (which is currently approximately 0.5m in some areas) would help facilitate on-road cycling and further encourage a mode shift to active transport.

## Environmental impacts

### Have you considered the proposal's impact to the environment?

The impacts of the proposal have been examined thoroughly in the REF and BDAR, which assess the proposal's potential impacts and outlines measures to manage and mitigate these impacts.

Transport will continue to review these impacts and wherever possible further reduce them during detailed design and construction. For further detail on the potential impacts of the project and how these are planned to be managed, mitigated and/or offset, please see the REF and BDAR on the project webpage.

### Are you proposed to remove vegetation from the area?

The proposal involves the removal of 2.38 hectares of native vegetation and 1.42 hectares of non-native vegetation.

Vegetation removal would primarily occur between Trefoil Creek and Oxford Falls Road as a result of the proposed road widening.

Further information about the proposed vegetation removal can be found in Section 6.1 of the REF.

### Why do you need to remove vegetation?

Transport is doing everything possible to minimise the impact to vegetation and fauna habitat. Some vegetation removal would be required to facilitate road widening, improve sight lines for vehicles travelling along Wakehurst Parkway and to construct turning lanes.

These changes would improve safety and efficiency for road users at targeted areas along the corridor.

We understand the importance of vegetation to the local community and will look to further reduce impacts wherever possible, during design development. Further information about the proposed vegetation removal can be found in Section 6.1 of the REF.

### What are you doing to mitigate the proposal's biodiversity impacts?

Some vegetation removal would be required to enable the proposed road upgrades. We have assessed the impacts of the proposal in detail in the REF and BDAR. We will be required to offset our impacts as part of the proposal.

To meet our requirements we will be:

- purchasing biodiversity offset credits
- partnering with the Royal Botanic Gardens to salvage and translocate the Angus Onion Orchid species to an area not impacted by the proposal.
- replanting trees and other vegetation as part of our landscaping
- contributing to the Transport for NSW Conservation Fund.

Further information about the proposed vegetation removal can be found in Section 6.1 of the REF.

### What is planned as part of the proposal to protect local fauna?

Fauna protection fencing will be installed at targeted locations along the proposal area. Fauna protection fencing will be designed to minimise impacts to threatened fauna species and species subject to vehicle strike.

Locations selected will consider connectivity requirements of fauna, utilise existing crossing structures and potential fauna crossing

infrastructure (i.e., canopy bridges and underpasses) to maintain connectivity.

Further information about the proposed vegetation removal can be found in Section 6.1 of the REF.

## What is a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR)?

A BDAR provides guidance on how the proposal can avoid and minimise potential biodiversity impacts and identifies the number and class of biodiversity offset credits that need to be offset to achieve a standard of 'no net loss' of biodiversity.

For further information please see the BDAR available on our [website](#).

## Will the project impact any waterways including Narrabeen Lagoon?

The project will involve construction work within Trefoil Creek and near Middle Creek. Standard construction environmental safeguards will be implemented during construction.

No impact to waterways are expected during construction. The project's drainage is designed to be consistent with existing conditions and as such, no changes are expected to the waterways surrounding the project during operation, including Narrabeen Lagoon.

Further information about how we will manage impacts to waterways during construction can be found in Section 6.3 of the REF.

## Flooding

### How are you addressing flooding issues on Wakehurst Parkway?

Transport is working with Northern Beaches Council to ensure that the traffic and safety improvements also support the proposed flood improvements.

By working together, we aim to reduce impacts to the community, and generate efficiencies during planning and construction of these important works. For more information on the status of the flood projects, please visit:

[yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/wakehurst-parkway-flood-mitigation](https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/wakehurst-parkway-flood-mitigation)

Further information on flooding and hydrology can be found in Section 6.2 of the REF.

## Will the project make flooding worse on local properties?

This proposal would not change the current flood risk in the area. Flood modelled impacts are shown to be localised and are already existing.

Further information on flooding and hydrology can be found in Section 6.2 of the REF.

## What will you do if it floods during construction?

Construction activities are not expected to result in any change to existing flooding conditions on adjacent properties.

Construction staging would aim to retain existing drainage flow paths by maintaining connectivity of piped drainage systems and overland flow paths through the proposed site throughout the construction period.

A flood contingency plan would be developed prior to construction to facilitate effective flood preparation and a detailed project response to any flood event during construction.

More information on flooding and hydrology can be found in Section 6.2 of the REF.

## Construction

### When is construction planned to start and finish?

At this stage we are seeking feedback on the proposal's REF and BDAR.

Subject to planning approvals, construction is expected to start in late 2024, with a staged approach across different locations of the project.

We will keep the community and stakeholders updated as plans progress.

### Will any night work be required?

Some night work would be required to minimise impacts on traffic. We will notify the community before any work starts and will do everything we can to minimise impacts.

Further information on construction hours and duration can be found in Section 3.3.3 of the REF.

### Will this work be noisy?

Residents who live and work near the proposed worksites may hear noise during construction activities, for example when we are working on the road or delivering materials.

Construction noise is temporary and often changes as work progresses.

To minimise the impact of noise on the local community, we use a range of mitigation measures to manage noise at the source.

This includes using less noisy equipment, turning off machinery when not in use, use quieter and less vibration-emitting construction methods where feasible and reasonable and staging out work to avoid extended periods of disruption.

We would be in contact with residents near the work throughout construction to explain how our work may impact you and how we can support any specialised needs or sensitivities.

Further information on noise can be found in *Section 6.7* of the REF.

### Will this work result in vibration or cause damage to homes?

Transport will work to minimise the impacts of vibration wherever possible.

Construction work generates varying degrees of vibration, depending on the types of equipment and methods used. Some activities like earthworks, site clearing and demolition, concrete breaking and removal and ground compaction, are expected to generate vibration.

Prior to any vibration-generating activities, eligible properties adjacent to work areas would be offered property condition surveys. This involves an inspection to record current condition and is compared to a second survey once construction work is complete.

A range of mitigation measures may be used to reduce and manage vibration during construction, including attended vibration measurements to confirm vibration levels satisfy the criteria for that vibration generating activity, construction respite periods and using quieter and less vibration emitting construction methods where feasible and reasonable.

Further information on vibration can be found in *Section 6.7* of the REF.

### Will construction impact private property?

There may be some short-term disruptions to properties located between Elanora Road and Mirrool Street during construction for driveway adjustments to take place on the northern side of Wakehurst Parkway.

Any impacted residents will be contacted in advance of any work starting and Transport would work with these residents to reduce impacts.

Further information on impacts to property access can be found in *Section 6.6.3* of the REF.

### How will you manage impacts to road users during construction? Will there be delays?

As part of the planning process, Transport will work with key stakeholders to develop construction approaches which minimise traffic disruption, environmental impacts and importantly protect the safety of motorists, workers, and the public.

There will be temporary traffic changes during our work hours to ensure the work zone is safe.

Lane closures may be in place and may affect travel times. Road users will be kept informed of proposed changes so that they can plan their journey accordingly.

Further information on traffic during construction can be found in *Section 6.6.3* of the REF.

### Will public transport services be impacted during construction?

During construction, traffic delays resulting from temporary lane closures, contraflow traffic arrangements and construction zone speed limits may result in interruptions and delays in bus services along Wakehurst Parkway.

Bus operators would be notified of changes to traffic arrangements during construction so they can plan accordingly.

More information on impacts to public transport during construction can be found in *Section 6.6.3* of the REF.

### Will vehicle numbers increase on Wakehurst Parkway during construction?

Increases in traffic volumes during construction would be limited to vehicles accessing worksites and are not expected to impact the operational performance of Wakehurst Parkway.

Further information on traffic performance during construction can be found in *Section 6.6.3* of the REF.

## Where will the proposed site compounds be located?

To support the proposal, several site compound locations have been nominated.

Site compounds would be used for site offices, staff parking, stockpiling, material laydown and refuelling machinery.

Further information on the nine nominated locations is provided in *Section 3.4* of the REF.

## Why are you changing access to the service road (near Palm Terrace)?

This intersection is proposed to be limited to left in and left out and all right turn movements consolidated to the newly upgraded Mirrool Street intersection (about 400 metres away).

Vehicles waiting to turn right into the service road contribute to congestion on Wakehurst Parkway. Removing potential blockages for through traffic would help improve safety and efficiency on the corridor.

Further information about the decision to ban right-turn movements into and out of the service lane near Palm Terrace can be found in *Section 2.1* of the REF.

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## Contact us



Project Infoline **1800 684 490**  
24-hour Construction Response Line  
**1800 775 465**



**northplace@transport.nsw.gov.au**



**yoursay.transport.nsw.gov.au/wakehurst**



Transport for NSW, PO Box 973  
Parramatta, NSW 2124



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**transport.nsw.gov.au/wakehurst**



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