

Parkes Bypass – Newell Highway upgrade



Australian Government



Girders have arrived for the construction of the Bridge over Rail and Hartigan Avenue

Work on the Newell Highway upgrade, Parkes Bypass, is well underway, and some key features of the project are taking shape. The project will improve connectivity, road transport efficiency and safety for local and interstate motorists. The Parkes Bypass project is jointly funded by the Australian and NSW Governments.

Bridge over Rail and Hartigan Avenue

The Bridge over Rail and Hartigan Avenue is a 200-metre-long bridge consisting of 36 precast super T-girders. Each girder weighs 60 tonnes and will be lifted and installed to provide a six-span superstructure. The deck will then be constructed and lifted on to the girders to connect to the rest of the bypass.



Rail bridge girders delivered to site

This bridge provides a key interface for the project as well as the town of Parkes, as it will enable vehicles to overpass the railway. At 7.74 metres high, the bridge will allow double stacked trains to pass underneath, allowing a seamless connection to Inland Rail.

Currently, we have completed 90% of the piling works that will support and stabilise the bridge substructures. All 36 of our super T-girders have been manufactured and delivered to site for future installation.



36 rail bridge girders
have been cast and delivered to site.



1255 cubic metres
of concrete has been poured for the rail bridge.



51 rail bridge piles
have been constructed over 6 pier locations.

New Bogan Road T-intersection

Construction has begun on the new Bogan Road intersection including earthworks, drainage, and pavement construction.

A side road will be constructed to take traffic off the existing Bogan Road to allow construction of the bypass.

The new Bogan Road forms an intersection with the bypass and will facilitate future vehicle movements from the Parkes CBD across the Parkes Bypass and through Bogan Road, particularly for vehicles travelling to and from Northparkes Mine.

Hartigan Avenue and Link Road

The upcoming traffic switch onto the new road connecting Hartigan Avenue and Brolgan Road in mid 2023, will allow for the construction of the northern embankment for the future Bridge over Rail and Hartigan Avenue, as well as the final stage of the Hartigan Avenue extension.

This traffic switch will facilitate east-west traffic including oversize and overmass vehicles to continue to travel on the road network efficiently.

Following completion of the bypass project, Link Road will connect existing Brolgan Road to Hartigan Avenue. (Note Link Road is yet to be formally named by Parkes Shire Council).



For the latest traffic updates, you can call **132 701**, visit [livetraffic.com](https://www.livetraffic.com) or download the Live Traffic NSW App.

Northern Bridge Abutment

The northern bridge abutment involves earthworks to facilitate the construction of the Bridge over Rail. At its highest point the abutment sits 7 metres above the existing ground and will involve the placement of approximately 35,000m³ of structural fill and 2,000m³ of rock. These works will commence following the traffic switch onto Link Road and Hartigan Avenue in late 2023.

Southern connection

The southern connection of the new bypass to the Newell Highway involves earthworks, drainage and pavement construction over the existing highway between Barkers Road and Parkesborough Road.

The construction of these works will be facilitated by placement of concrete barriers on the existing Newell Highway and temporary widening to maintain two lanes of traffic. Traffic will need to be stopped to place the concrete barriers. Works will also involve the construction of a piled protection slab over the high-pressure gas main which currently crosses the existing Newell Highway. These tie-in works will commence in June and are expected to take 15 months to complete.

Upcoming Traffic Changes

- Bogan Road traffic switch onto side-track
- London Road traffic switch onto side-track
- Single lane closures on Henry Parkes Way continues
- Traffic switch onto the new Link Road between Hartigan Avenue and Brolgan Road
- Northern and southern connections of the bypass which will include barrier installation on the existing highway
- Closure of Maguire Road to become a cul-de-sac
- Thomas Street between Moulden Street and Reedsdale Road, remains closed during work hours
- Victoria Street will remain closed until the end of the year to facilitate remaining excavation in the cuttings and Victoria Street Bridge construction.

There will be some temporary traffic changes to ensure the work zone is safe. Please keep to speed limits and follow the direction of traffic controllers and signs.

Naturally Occurring Asbestos

In September 2022, Naturally Occurring Asbestos (NOA) was identified within the Parkes Bypass site, in two cuttings between Condobolin Road (Henry Parkes Way) and Painter Street, and in a cutting adjacent Brolgan Road.

Following the discovery of NOA at these sites, work was immediately stopped as a precautionary measure whilst an Asbestos Management Plan was finalised.

This plan was completed in consultation with SafeWork and the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) in accordance with their guidelines and was approved in February 2023 allowing work in these NOA affected locations to recommence.

The plan involves implementing controls that ensure the safety of workers and the public while conducting works in areas affected by NOA as well as ensuring that the site is remediated prior to completion of the project.

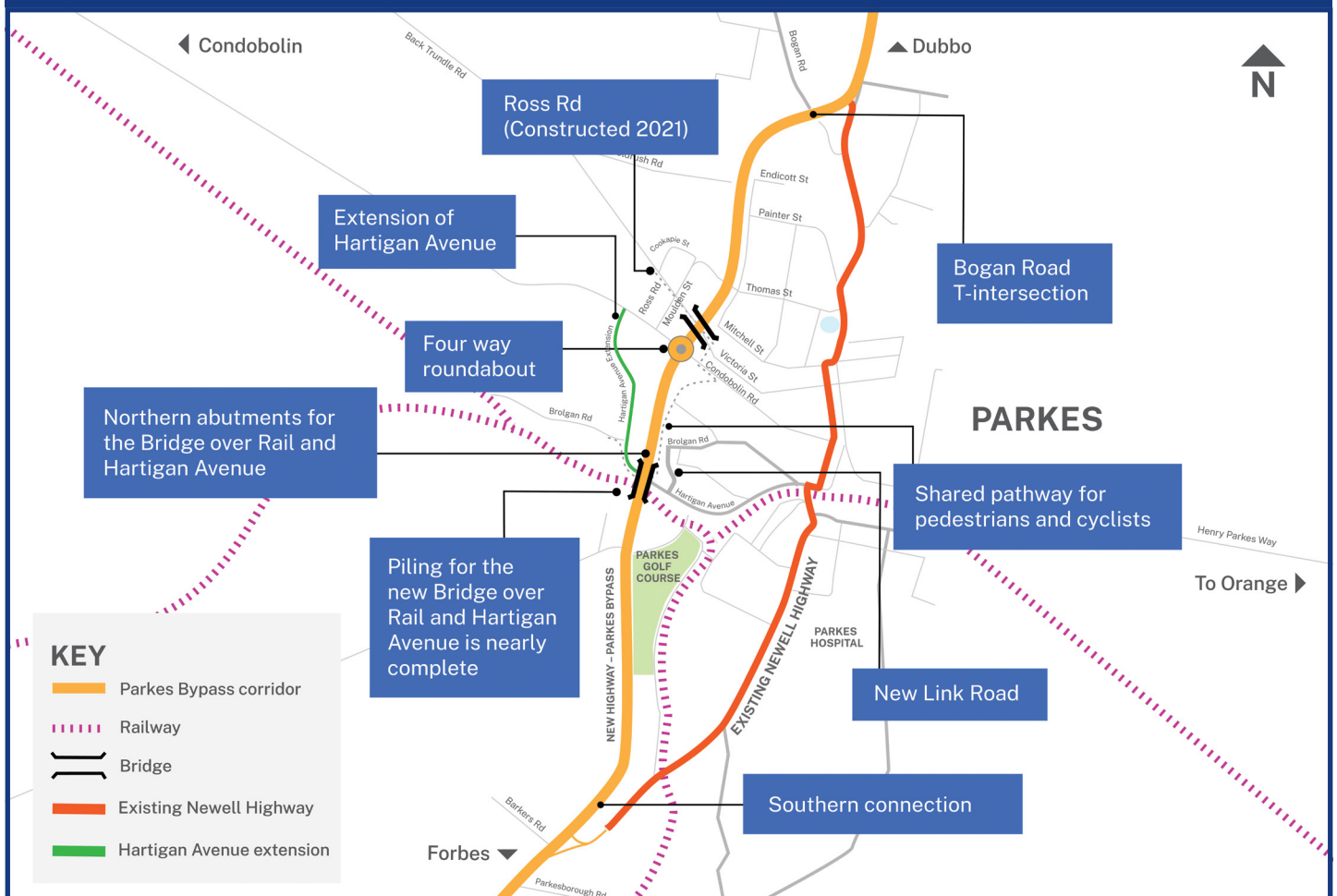
The plan requires the remaining NOA material to be excavated and placed in containment cells within the project site. NOA material placed in the road formation prior to identification of NOA on site will remain in place.

Read more about Naturally Occurring Asbestos in our latest update and Frequently Asked Questions on our Website



Asbestos removal and encapsulation on site

Parkes Bypass Key Features



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Southern Connection looking towards the Newell Highway

Mental health awareness in the workplace

Parkes Bypass project teams are looking a little brighter with the introduction of Funky Shirt Fridays.

Taking the lead from Trade Mutt, the initiative aims to encourage meaningful conversations about mental health at work.

Since 2003, Movember has funded more than 1,250 men's health projects around the world, challenging the status quo, shaking up research and motivating men to take action for their health.

The team on the Parkes Bypass wanted to show their support and raise funds for this vital cause.



Parkes Bypass project team showcasing their Funky Friday shirts

Contact us

If you have any questions or would like more information on the Parkes Bypass project, please contact our project team:



1800 741 636 (option 4)



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transport.nsw.gov.au



If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450** and ask them to call us on **1800 741 636 (option 4)**

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