

Community Update | January 2024

# Coxs River Road Upgrade



Coxs River Road construction site behind the Lolly Bug, Little Hartley at sunset.

The NSW Government is investing \$232 million towards the Coxs River Road Upgrade. This will reduce congestion and improve safety and accessibility for all local and highway road users, commuters and pedestrians.

Work on the Coxs River Road Upgrade (the Project) has progressed since lead contractor Ertech began works in April this year. One of the largest features of the Project is the Coxs River Road Bridge. In November 2023 the Super T bridge girders were delivered and Ertech lifted them into place in the first week of January.

This year will see much of the larger construction taking place. The retaining walls will be installed behind the Lolly Bug in the early months of this year and the Coxs River Road bridge is set to open to traffic by mid 2024.

## Locals to advise Transport on construction impacts

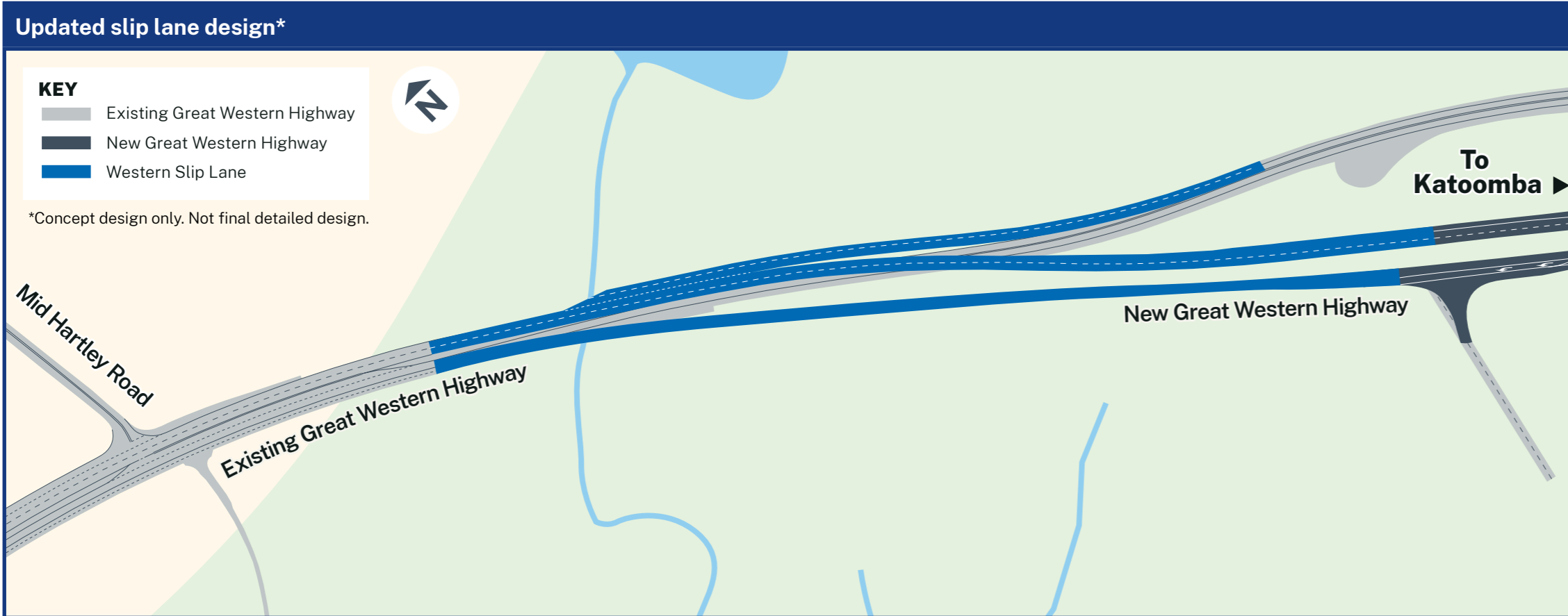
The newly formed Coxs River Road Community Advisory Group, will work collaboratively with Transport for NSW to look at upcoming construction programs and provide insight into the effects this may have on the local community.

Transport welcomes Christopher Dailey, David Harris, Ramsay Moodie and Susie Moodie to the group. As well known members of the local community you can reach out to them with any feedback about the Project, which they can bring along to Advisory Group meetings held each quarter.

You can also contact the project team or Ertech with any questions via the contact details on the back page.



**Over 30%**  
of people working on the project are local



## Providing better access for local businesses

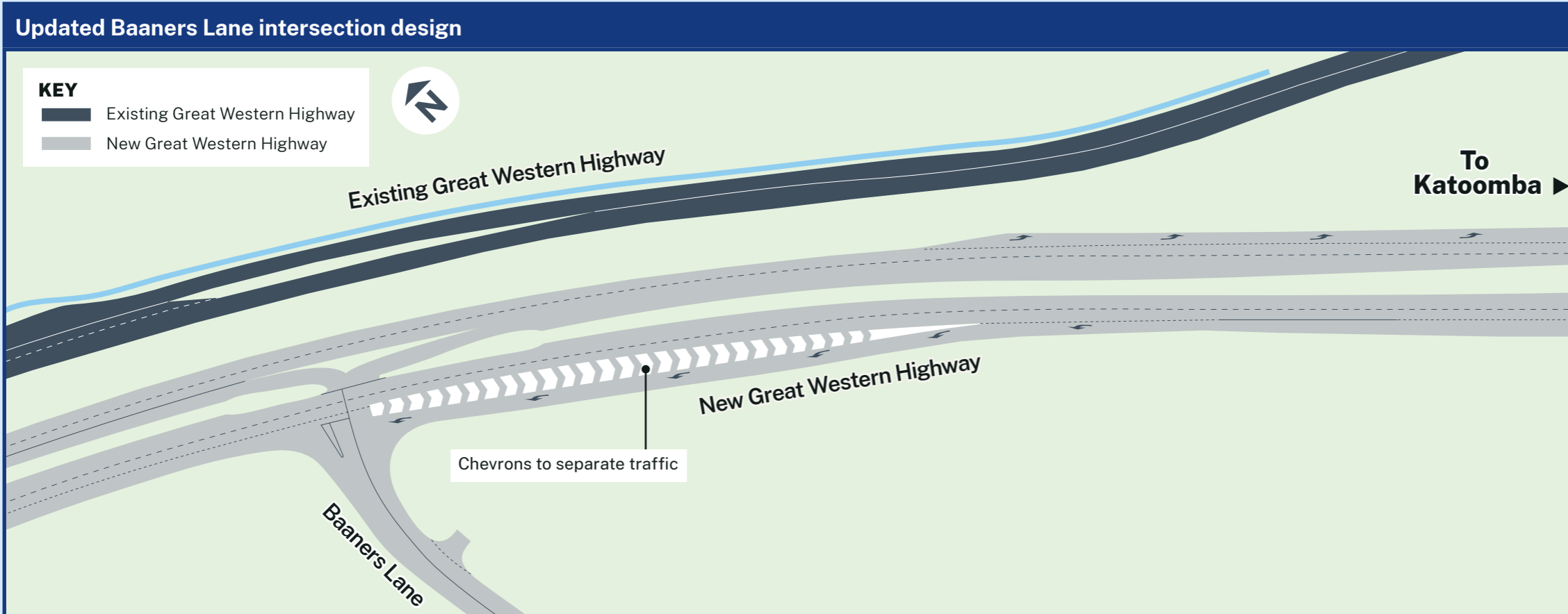
The original design for the Coxs River Road Upgrade included a temporary cul de sac at the western end of the existing Great Western Highway, which will become a service road for the local community.

With the pause of the rest of the Little Hartley to Lithgow upgrade following state and federal infrastructure reviews, it became clear that this cul de sac would create access problems for residents and businesses at this end of the service road.

We have now redesigned this section of the upgrade. There will now be an eastbound exit lane for traffic on the Great Western Highway to provide much needed access to residences and businesses on the service road.

Signage will also be provided to provide directions to vehicles wishing to access businesses along the service road.

We would like to thank the community for its patience while we investigated solutions and we will share more information once it has completed the detailed design phase.



## Improving safety at Baaners Lane

During the design phase of the Coxs River Road Upgrade we regularly consulted with the community and one of the major concerns we heard was about the safety of the Baaners Lane intersection.

In response to these consultations, we have refined the Coxs River Road Upgrade at this intersection with a focus on continuing the reduction of congestion and further improving safety and accessibility of all road users.

The changes made to the Baaners Lane intersection include:

- improving the sight envelope by eliminating vegetation and road furniture from the line of sight.
- adding chevrons to the design to separate the left turn lane, moving it out of the line of sight for drivers on Baaners Lane.
- adding variable speed limit signage to the whole Upgrade to reduce road speed limits during adverse weather conditions, like fog.

### Community chooses retaining wall finish

As part of the Coxs River Road Upgrade, two retaining walls are set to be built behind the Lolly Bug. These retaining walls will be 180 and 240 metres long and range in height from 1.5 metres to 7 metres tall.

During August we asked for the community to vote on two options for the retaining wall panels. In addition to the vote, several viewing sessions were offered so community members could attend and ask any questions about the panels.

Voting on the panels closed in September. After 102 votes from the community were collected, the light coloured panel option has been selected with 59% of the total votes.

These panels have been ordered and will be installed on the retaining walls in the coming months.



The panel of choice that will be used in the Coxs River Road Upgrade

### Support for local employment

To provide local long-term unemployed people with skills to get them into the workforce, Ertech developed and launched a Pre-Employment Program. This program provided onsite training and qualifications to the participants.

The Program provides training on a range of areas in civil construction, including safety procedures and policies, identifying and controlling risks in the workplace, communication in the workplace and working as a spotter.

One of the participants, Tracey Curran from Lithgow, shared her thoughts on the Program. “I am so happy to have had this opportunity,” Ms Curran said. “We are all grateful for the support the Coxs River Road project team has given us. It will be a great place to work and I am looking forward to starting on the job.”

The Program ran through November and all five participants graduated and are now working on the Coxs River Road Upgrade.



Participants of the pre-employment program at their graduation joined by Transport and Ertech team members

### Contact us

Email us at [gwh@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:gwh@transport.nsw.gov.au) to sign up for our eNewsletter and you'll never miss a project update.



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