

Macquarie Park Bus Depot

Zero Emission Buses Program

September 2024



Australian Government



Planning approval has been granted for the project.

The NSW Government's commitment to a net zero future is an important part of the government's plan to protect our future by growing the economy, creating jobs, and improve environmental outcomes by reducing carbon emissions.

The Zero Emission Buses (ZEB) Program supports the government's net zero initiative, by transitioning the state's fleet of diesel and gas public transport buses to zero emissions technology. The first stage of the program will deliver over 1200 battery electric buses, 11 depot conversions and a new depot in Macquarie Park by 2028.

The Macquarie Park Bus Depot has received planning approval. This project is co-funded by the Australian and NSW Governments. It will be the first purpose-built battery electric bus depot being delivered as part of the ZEB Program, and an important step towards a net zero future.



Thank you

Thank you to everyone who took the time to respond and provide feedback on the project.

This decision follows consideration of the Review of Environmental Factors (REF) and feedback received in response to community consultation in June 2024.

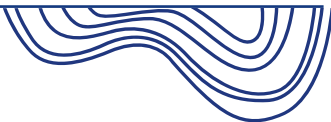
Transport has prepared a Submissions Report, detailing our response to feedback and updates to the project, including any changes made to the project as a result of your feedback. It also provides answers to the questions you asked us.

The Submissions Report is now available to view at transport.nsw.gov.au/macpark-depot



Interpreter services

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What you told us

How you engaged with us

The REF was on public display for three weeks from 3 June 2024 to 24 June 2024. We carried out a range of activities to engage with the community and stakeholders on the REF, encourage feedback and provide support during the process.

- 19,000+ users reached on Facebook
- 100+ community notifications delivered
- 40+ key stakeholders notified via email
- 54 people completed the online survey
- 2 community information sessions were held

What we heard

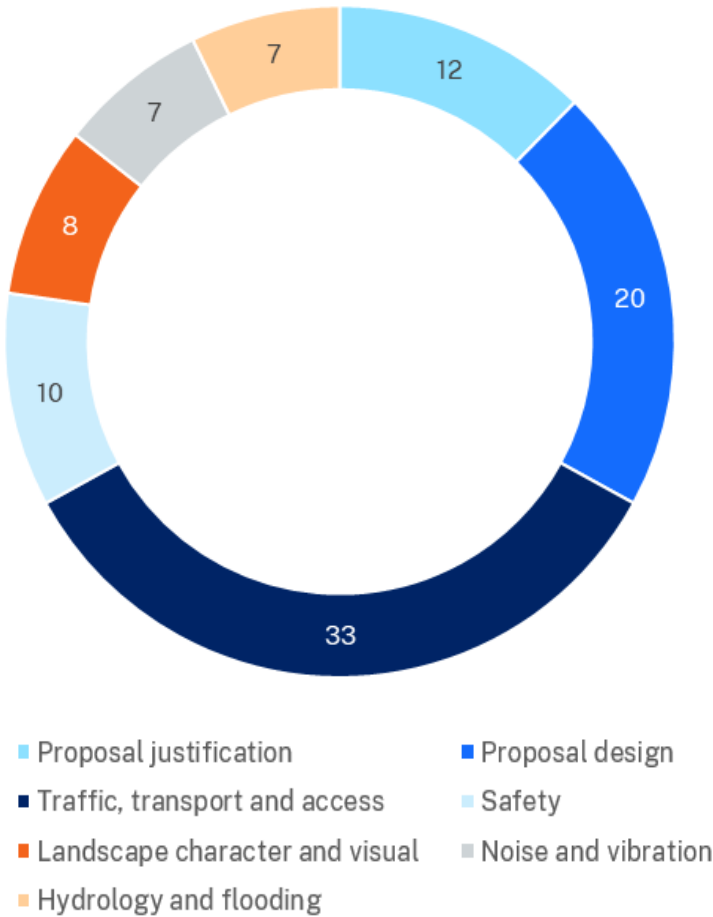
We received 64 submissions during community consultation from members of the community with different interests and views. This includes:

- local government and state government agencies
- neighbouring businesses and landowners
- local community members including residents
- depot staff working from other locations.

While we appreciate the support for the project and for welcoming the introduction of battery electric buses in the area, we also acknowledge concerns raised about the project and new technologies, impacts on the environment, and how the depot aligns with strategic plans for the precinct.

Other topics related to lack of consultation, air quality, lighting, contamination, and the potential impact on neighboring properties.

Key themes and total number of submissions received.



While no major changes are currently proposed to the design, community and stakeholder feedback is being used to further refine key activities, mitigation measures and the project design.

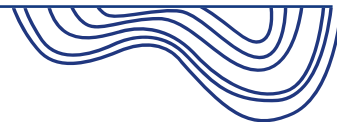
We thank everyone who made a submission and those who participated in our engagement activities. Your feedback has been considered and will help us refine the project design.

Next steps

Completing the procurement process which is currently underway for a design and construction partner.

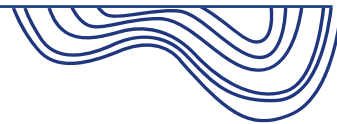
Detailed design is expected to start in early 2025. During this time, we may need to do further investigative work to inform the design. We will notify you in advance of any work starting.

Subject to further investigation, construction is expected to start around mid-2025 and be completed by late 2027.



Key issues raised

Topic	Transport's response
Active transport	Following feedback received, Transport will investigate options to retain or relocate the existing bike path connection between Talavera Road, Macquarie Park, and the M2 Hills Motorway. This is subject to further investigation during detailed design and consultation with key stakeholders.
Fire safety	Transport is working closely with Fire and Rescue NSW and Office of Transport Safety Investigations to identify any fire safety measures that can be implemented at the depot. This includes specific requirements for battery electric buses and their charging technology. For example, batteries onboard NSW's electric buses are all sealed, Ingress Protection rated and monitored with dedicated battery management software to provide early detection of potential safety issues.
Renewable energy and power supply	<p>Transport is working closely with Ausgrid to secure the power supply required for the depot and implementing measures that will reduce the demand on local energy supply. The depot will operate using 100% renewable energy from the depot's solar power system and renewable energy purchased from the grid through an energy supplier. Additional sustainability measures will be investigated during detailed design and implemented during construction. This may include installing more solar power systems and a battery energy storage system.</p> <p>The <i>NSW Electricity Strategy (November 2019)</i> is the NSW Government's plan for a reliable, affordable, and sustainable electricity future that supports a growing economy. It addresses key challenges associated with the electricity network such as aging traditional generators and congested transmission systems. To learn more, please visit www.energy.nsw.gov.au.</p>
Traffic congestion	Traffic studies found the bus depot will have minimal impact on the performance of key intersections in Macquarie Park during construction and operations, as most traffic movements will be outside of peak periods. We acknowledge plans for residential development within the precinct. Transport will continue to work closely with the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure on traffic requirements as these plans progress.
Urban design and landscaping	An Urban Design and Landscape Plan (UDLP) will be prepared during detailed design to identify strategies for landscaping and enhancing environmental outcomes, for embedding connections to Country, public art and heritage interpretation, and design excellence processes. It will ensure the depot (and its architecture) meet sustainability targets and make a positive contribution to the precinct taking into consideration the area's natural, built and community context.



Artist impression of the Macquarie Park Bus Depot, subject to change during detailed design.

About the project

The Macquarie Park Bus Depot will be located in the south-east end of the Macquarie Park Precinct, at 1A/1B Talavera Road, Macquarie Park. It will be situated on Transport-owned land between the M2 Hills Motorway and commercial properties off Talavera Road and Wicks Road.

The depot will accommodate around 165 battery electric buses to support existing bus services operating from Willoughby and Ryde bus depots. Both standard and articulated (extra-long) buses are expected to operate from the depot.

Key features of the project include:

- around 165 bus parking and charging bays, bus maintenance bays and a wash bay
- battery charging infrastructure including gantries with overhead pull-down bus chargers
- a multistorey staff office and security building
- an underground staff car park with direct access from Talavera Road (main entrance)
- widening and upgrading Pittwater Road to enable bus access only
- bike path retention or re-alignment (subject to further investigation)
- new lighting, fencing, security booths and fire safety equipment.

Contact us



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1800 775 465



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transport.nsw.gov.au/macpark-depot



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Acknowledgement of Country

Transport for NSW acknowledges the Wallumattagal people of the Dharug Nation as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we work and pays respect to Elders past and present.

