Transport for NSW

Richmond Road Upgrade between M7 Motorway and Townson Road, Marsden Park – Early design features

Community Consultation Report August 2024





# **Acknowledgement of Country**

Transport for NSW acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we work and live. We acknowledge the proposal is located on Dharug Country.

We pay our respects to Elders past and present and celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal people and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands and waters of NSW.

Many of the transport routes we use today – from rail lines, to roads, to water crossings – follow the traditional Songlines, trade routes and ceremonial paths in Country that our nation's First Peoples followed for tens of thousands of years.

Transport for NSW is committed to honouring Aboriginal peoples' cultural and spiritual connections to the lands, waters and seas and their rich contribution to society.



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# Document control

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### Versions

Version	Amendment notes
1.0	Final

# **Executive Summary**

This is a report of Transport for NSW's (Transport) consultation with the community and key stakeholders from Friday 14 June to Friday 5 July 2024 on the proposed upgrades at the Richmond Road between Townson Road and M7 Motorway, Marsden Park.

A high traffic area with over 89,000 vehicles travelling through the Richmond Road and Rooty Hill Road North intersection. Road users currently experience heavy congestion, slow travel times and delays when travelling through the Richmond Road.

Transport's aim is to ease congestion and improve traffic flow by widening Richmond Road and upgrading intersections.

The upgrade supports future development and improves connectivity for the communities in the North West, making it easier to move in and around the area.

# Purpose of this report

#### **Background**

Transport has developed an early design feature for this project.

The Australian Government and NSW Government are funding the proposed Richmond Road upgrade between M7 Motorway and Townson Road, Marsden Park as part of North West Growth Centre Road Network Strategy to support development in the fast growing North West Growth Area.

The project has \$260 million State funding to complete concept design, REF and detailed designs and commence delivery.

The State welcomes the Federal Government announcement of \$260 million towards the project. This comes in addition to the NSW Government's commitment of \$260 million to the project.

Richmond Road provides an important north-west link through an area of Northwest Sydney that is set to undergo significant land-use and transport changes, including rapid population and employment growth over the next 20 years and beyond. It is an arterial road which serves several priority land release precincts in the North West Growth Area (NWGA) including Marsden Park, Marsden Park Industrial, Marsden Park North, West Schofields, and Colebee.

The proposal aims to ease traffic congestion on Richmond Road and at the intersections of M7 Motorway and Townson Road in Marsden Park. Once completed, the project will improve safety for all road users, improve connectivity for communities in the north-west, and increase road capacity to accommodate expected growth along Richmond Road. Currently, the road is heavily used during peak times, leading to significant delays for motorists due to rapid growth and development of the area.

# Project overview

Transport is currently developing a concept design and Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the upgrade of around 2.2 kilometres of Richmond Road from four lanes to six lanes between the M7 Motorway and Townson Road.

This upgrade seeks to address congestion and safety issues at the gateway to the North West Growth Area.

The project scope and key feature includes the following:

#### **Proposed improvements**

- widening Richmond Road between the M7 Motorway and Townson Road, adding an additional lane in each direction
- building a new flyover bridge from the M7 Motorway Rooty Hill Road North off-ramp to Richmond Road northbound to allow road users to bypass two sets of traffic lights, reducing congestion and queuing onto the motorway and allowing uninterrupted flow of traffic
- replacing the pedestrian and bike path on the western side of Richmond Road
- replacing the bridge over Bells Creek with a new concrete bridge that will include a separated pedestrian and bike path and travel lanes
- continuing to improve public transport by maintaining the dedicated bus lanes at the intersections
- intersection upgrades along Richmond Road between Townson Road and M7 Motorway include:
  - additional dedicated right turn lane from Richmond Road into Hollinsworth Road
  - additional dedicated right turn lane from Richmond Road into Rooty Hill Road North
  - extending the right turn lane onto the M7 Motorway southbound to increase the capacity for queuing of vehicles.

- Staged pedestrian crossing at the Townson and Alderton intersections.

### **Project benefits**

- ease congestion and improve the travel times for all road users
- improve traffic flow through the intersections
- improve safety for all road users
- improve connectivity for the communities in the north-west
- improve pedestrian safety with a new staged crossing making it easier for pedestrians and bike riders to move safely in and around the area.

# Consultation approach

### Consultation objectives

Transport consulted with the community and key stakeholders on early design features from Friday 14 June to Friday 5 July 2024 to:

- Seek comment, feedback, ideas, and suggestions including consultation outcomes to be considered when developing the proposal, the concept design and environmental impact assessment known as Review of Environmental Factors (REF)
- Build a database of interested and concerned community members for Transport to continue engaging during the proposal's development and delivery.

#### How consultation was done

Community members and stakeholders were encouraged to provide their feedback, leave comments and make submissions at the information sessions or via email or phone contact with the project team.

Our key consultation tools are listed below:

Table 1

Channels	Messages
Onamicts	Messages
Print community update via letterbox	<ul> <li>Have your say – a community update (see Appendix A) was distributed to 4,206 residents and businesses in local area on Friday 14 June 2024 (See distribution zone in Appendix B)</li> </ul>
Email to stakeholders	Emails including our proposal were sent to the council and the community who has subscribed to our email updates
Webpage	<ul> <li>Project webpage was updated with latest project information including community notification</li> </ul>
Social media	• Geo-targeted Facebook post one ran from 14 June to 18 June, post two ran from 19 June to 24 June and post three ran from 25 June to 2 July. These posts reached 11,778, 18,248 and 25,887 respectively
Live information session	• Live information session held on Tuesday 25 June 2024. Total of 40 people attended the live session.

# Consultation summary

#### Overview

Transport received 77 submissions across all communications channels.

Key issues raised included:

- explanation of the proposal
- pedestrians and residents' safety along Richmond Road
- environmental impacts
- suggestions

22 submissions were in support of the proposal, 11 submissions were not in favour of some or all aspects of the proposal with another 44 submissions requesting further information or providing suggestions outside the scope of the proposal.

### Feedback summary and Transport's response

Transport has provided responses to feedback received on this proposal in Table 1 below. The feedback has helped us better understand how the community uses Richmond Road and the key challenges they face every day between the M7 Motorway and Townson Road, Marsden Park.

Table 1 – Feedback summary and Transport's responses.

Matter Raised	Transport's Response
Proposal description	
Request further	The proposal will widen Richmond Road between the M7
information on the	Motorway and Townson Road from two lanes to three lanes in
proposal	both directions. The northbound and southbound traffic are
	proposed to be in separate carriageways on Richmond Road
	between the M7 and Townson Road. The proposal will match
	existing road elevations at intersections.
Request details	The project has funding to finalise the design ahead of early
about construction	works expected in 2026.
timing	
Request	The proposed one-lane flyover starts after the M7 exit toll at
clarification on the	the Rooty Hill Road North ramp and curves north to connect
proposed new	with the northbound lanes on Richmond Road. This allows
flyover	traffic going to Marsden Park to skip two sets of traffic lights,
	reducing traffic at those intersections.
Request more	More information about the proposal (such as intersection
information of the	layout and local road access) will be available later this year
proposal to upgrade	as part of the Review of Environmental Factors. This will be

Matter Raised	Transport's Response
Richmond Road /	publicly displayed for community feedback providing further
Hollinsworth Road /	opportunity for the community to comment on the proposal
Townson Road	that will include more detail around the scope.
intersection	
Request more	
information of the	
proposal to upgrade	
Richmond Road /	
Alderton Drive /	
Langford Drive	
intersection	
Requests more	
information of the	
proposal on bike	
paths and	
pedestrian	
crossings	
Request details	
about fencing along	
the proposal	
Proposal justification	
Requests a	The current scope of this proposal is along Richmond Road
justification on the	between the M7 Motorway and Townson Road, which is one
proposal area being	part of an overall plan to improve the transport network for the
only between M7	North West Growth Area (NWGA).
and Townson Road,	T I I
does not extend	Transport is also developing a Richmond Road Corridor
further north and	Strategy as part of the preparation for future growth and
south	infrastructure prioritisation within the North West Growth
	Area including flood evacuation routes, new bus services and new shared pedestrian and bike paths. The Richmond Road
	Corridor Strategy is in the early strategic phase, for further
	information you can visit Transport's website
	https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-
	projects/north-west-growth-area
Concern about the	The feasibility of the proposal and its economic merit to
value for money	society were assessed through a cost benefit analysis (CBA): a
value for money	comparison of the relative costs and benefits of the Project
	Case in comparison to a Base Case scenario. This analysis
	determined the project as economically feasible and identified
	a number of benefits associated with the proposal and its
	ability to support residential and commercial development in
	the immediately surrounding localities.
Concern raised	Traffic and transport investigations are being undertaken to
about traffic	provide information that will feed into the proposal design and
congestion at the	assess the potential impacts of the proposal as part of the
	and the personal impacts of the proposition part of the

Matter Raised	Transport's Response
start and end points	Review of Environmental Factors (REF). The REF will provide
of the proposal due	more information about the proposal and is expected to be
to the added lanes,	publicly displayed for community feedback later this year. This
and how this will be	display will provide further opportunity for the community to
managed.	comment on the proposal with more detail around the scope.
Safety	· ·
Raised safety	One of the objectives of the Richmond Road Upgrade is to
concerns of	improve safety for all road users. Traffic investigations are
pedestrians near	being undertaken to provide information that will feed into the
the Rooty Hill Road	proposal design and assess the potential impacts of the
North / M7 off-ramp	proposal as part of the REF. These assessments include safety
due to the mix of	considerations to meet relevant road safety standards.
vehicle types	
(trucks, semi-	The proposed design includes upgrades of the intersections at
trailers, utes, etc.)	Hollinsworth Road and Townson Road and Langford Drive and
Raised safety	Alderton Road. The upgrades will improve pedestrian safety
concerns of traffic	with a new staged crossing making it easier for pedestrians
congestion in peak	and bike riders to move safely in and around the area.
periods near the	•
Rooty Hill Road	
North / M7 off-ramp	
Raised safety	
concerns of	
pedestrians	
crossing Richmond	
Road	
Property	
Requests for	This Have Your Say was an opportunity for public input during
information on	the early design stages. The REF will provide more
future consultation	information about the proposal and impact assessments. The
activities and how	REF will be publicly displayed to provide further opportunity
residents will be	for the community to comment on the proposal with more
informed if there	detail around the scope.
will be impact(s) on	•
their property.	The potential impacts the upgrade may have on properties will
	be confirmed at detailed design stage. As the design advances
	and the potential impacts to property become clear, Transport
	will contact property owners with detailed information.
	All landowners that may be impacted by property acquisition
	will be supported by a Personal Relationship Manager. For more
	information on about property acquisition please visit the NSW
	Property Acquisition web page
	How property acquisition works   NSW Government
	You can also contact the project team via email
	richmondroadupgrade@transport.nsw.gov.au
Environmental impact	
Litvii oriinentat iinpaci	

M II D :	T U D
Matter Raised	Transport's Response
Concerns about the impacts of noise and vibration during construction affecting residents in the area	The project team will undertake an environmental impact assessment for the proposal. This assessment is called "Review of Environmental Factors" (REF) and involves specialist studies and investigation, including a noise and vibration assessment. The noise and vibration assessment will consider the potential impacts for both operation of the proposal when complete and construction, which will include assessment of both standard and night time construction activities. As part of this assessment, potential impacts on surrounding sensitive receivers will be identified as well as mitigation measures to reduce noise and vibration impacts. This information will be available in the REF which is expected to be publicly displayed for community comment later this
Question about the kangaroo population Concern about impacts to local birds and kangaroos Concern about visual amenity of the flyover bridge Concerns about the proposal impacts on the surrounding transport network during construction Concerns about the proposal impacts on the surrounding local road network once completed	The project team will undertake an environmental impact assessment for the proposal. This assessment is called "Review of Environmental Factors" (REF) and involves specialist studies to assess the potential impacts of the proposal on the existing environment. It will include assessments of a full range of environmental issues, including (but not limited to) a Biodiversity Assessment Report, a Landscape Character and Visual Impact Assessments, Traffic and Access Impact Assessments and Socio-economic Impact Assessment. The results of these assessments and community feedback will also feed into the ongoing design development to ensure the best result for the proposal and the community. The REF is expected to be publicly displayed for community comment later this year.
Surrounding transpor	rt network
Raised concern about the lack of improvement to traffic congestion on Richmond Road, particularly north of the proposal area	This project is part of an overall plan to improve the transport network for the North West Growth Area (NWGA).  https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/north-west-growth-area  Transport is currently planning the widen to four lanes a section of Richmond Rd between Elara Boulevard and Heritage Road at Marsden Park. Transport is finalising the submission report following the display of the Review of Environmental Factors (REF). The submissions report will be published to Transport's website when completed

Matter Raised	Transport's Response
	projects/richmond-road-upgrade-between-elara-boulevard-
	and-heritage-road-marsden).
Request detail on project considerations for future proposed transport	The current scope is along Richmond Road between the M7 Motorway and Townson Road. The proposed layout as part of early design work considers and does not preclude the future proposed transport infrastructure.
infrastructure, such as Castlereagh Connection, Townson to Burdekin Road project and North West Metro	Transport is also developing a Richmond Road Corridor Strategy as part of the preparation for future growth and infrastructure prioritisation within the North West Growth Area including flood evacuation routes, new bus services and new shared pedestrian and bike paths. The Richmond Road Corridor Strategy is in the early strategic phase, for further information you can visit Transport's website <a href="https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/north-west-growth-area">https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/north-west-growth-area</a> Information on the Townson to Burdekin Road Upgrade project can be viewed on Transport's website <a href="https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/townson-burdekin-road-upgrade-north-west-growth-area">https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/townson-burdekin-road-upgrade-north-west-growth-area</a>
Concerns about people taking detours through adjacent suburbs (such as Colebee, Dean Park, Hassall Grove, Oakhurst, Glendenning, Dean Park) to avoid going through congested spots such as the Rooty Hill Road North / M7 on-ramp intersection	The road widening will increase overall capacity on Richmond Road and the optimisation of the signal phasing will improve the intersection performance. Increasing the capacity on Richmond Road and the improved traffic flow is anticipated to reduce the number of road users taking detours through the surrounding local road network.  Traffic and transport investigations are being undertaken to provide information that will feed into the proposal design and assess the potential impacts of the proposal as part of the Review of Environmental Factors (REF). The REF will provide more information about the proposal and is expected to be publicly displayed for community feedback later this year. This display will provide further opportunity for the community to comment on the proposal with more detail around the scope.
Suggestion for an upgrade or reconfiguration of Romley Cresent / Rooty Hill Road North intersection	The current scope of this proposal is along Richmond Road between the M7 Motorway and Townson Road. The request around upgrades or reconfiguration of other intersections is noted but is outside the scope of this proposal. Transport will continue monitoring the state road network and investigate

Matter Raised	Transport's Response
for safe entry and	opportunities for improvement. Matters raised during
egress	consultation that are not within Transport's area of
Suggestion for an	responsibility have been forwarded to the relevant authority.
upgrade of	
Richmond Road /	
Knox Road /	
Quakers Hill	
Parkway	
intersection	
Suggestion for an	
upgrade of	
Richmond Road /	
Symonds Road	
intersection	
Suggestions for a	
new exit point for	
M7, to join with	
Quakers Hill	
Parkway Suggestion for	
traffic signal	
optimisation of	
Richmond Road /	
Yarramundi Drive	
intersection	
Request detail on	There will be different ways to access to the new airport when
how residents in the	it opens in 2026, however this is outside scope of this
area would access	proposal. Information is available at
the new Western	https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/programs/western-
Sydney Airport	sydney-airport-precinct
Raised concerns on	The NSW Government has an ongoing program to maintain
frequency that	road assets that includes pavement rehabilitation and
roads in the area	development works across the transport network.
will require to be	
resurfaced as	
traffic continues to	
increase over time	
Suggested alternate	<u> </u>
Suggest bicycle	Transport notes this feedback and thanks you for your
paths and walking	suggestionswhich will be considered as we progress the
paths to be included	concept design.
on the eastern side	
in the proposal	
Suggestions for a	
different	
reconfiguration of	

Matter Raised	Transport's Response
Richmond Road /	
Hollinsworth Road /	
Townson Road	
intersection	
Suggestions for a	
grade separation at	
all key intersections	
on Richmond Road	
Suggestions for a	
different	
reconfiguration and	
traffic signal	
optimisation of	
Richmond Road /	
Alderton Drive /	
Langford Drive	
intersection	
Suggest a new	
bridge crossing for	
pedestrians and	
bike riders over	
Richmond Road	
near Bells Creek in	
the proposal	
Suggestions for an	
upgrade or	
reconfiguration of	
Richmond Road /	
Rooty Hill Road	
North intersection	
Suggestions for	
reconfiguration of	
the underpass	
beneath the M7	
bridge	
Suggestions for an	
additional bridge	
structure to support	
road users using M7	
in all directions	
(northbound,	
eastbound,	
southbound),	
adjacent the	
proposed flyover	

Matter Raised	Transport's Response
Suggest additional	
underpass, adjacent	
the proposed	
flyover	
Suggestions related	The request about new road links is noted but is outside the
to new road	scope of this proposal. Transport will continue monitoring the
connections as	state road network and investigate opportunities for
alternative options	improvement. Traffic flows outside the proposal for Richmond
to Richmond Road	Road, on local roads, are under the care and control of
	Blacktown City Council. Community members are encouraged
	to contact Council. Matters raised during consultation that are
	not within Transport's area of
	responsibility have been forwarded to the relevant authority.
Suggest the	Transport notes this feedback and thanks you for your
proposed flyover to	suggestions. The start and end points of the proposed flyover
join into Richmond	were defined to minimise impacts. The Review of
Road further north,	Environmental Factors will provide more information about the
connecting with	proposal and is expected to be publicly displayed for
Marsden Park	community feedback later this year. This display will provide
industrial area	further opportunity for the community to comment on the
	proposal with more detail around the scope.

#### Consultation outcomes

Transport thanks everyone who provided comments and the community and stakeholders for considering the proposal. We have reviewed all submissions received and they will be carefully considered as we further develop the concept design and Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the proposal.

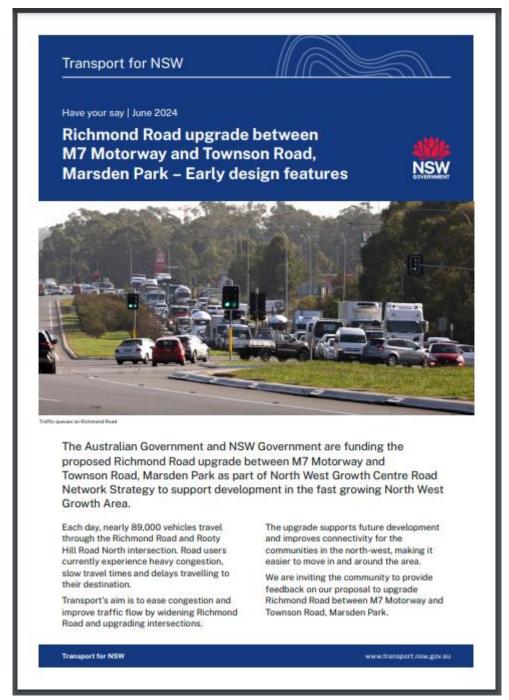
#### Next steps

Transport will publicly display the concept design and Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the proposal.

Transport will continue to keep the community updated as the project progresses.

# **Appendices**

### Appendix A – Have your say letter June 2024





Richmond Road upgrade between M7 Motorway and Townson Road, Marsden Park - Early design features

#### Talk to the project team

We will hold an online community information session so you can find out more about the early design from the project team and ask questions about the proposed upgrades.

When: Tuesday 25 June 2024 from 1 to 1.40pm.

Where: join us via Microsoft Teams using

the following nswroads.work/ richmondrd-m7-townsonrd

Unable to join us: a recording will be available on our website at nswroads.work/ richmondrd-m7-townsonrd

#### What next?

After the consultation closes, we will carefully consider all the feedback received in developing the concept design and review of environmental factors ( REF) for the proposal. The REF will be displayed for community feedback before a decision is made on the proposal.

#### Have your say

We invite your feedback on the proposal by Friday 5 July 2024. You can also provide your comments by contacting our project team.

1300 367 561

richmondroadupgrade@transport. nsw.gov.au

nswroads.work/ richmondrd-m7-townsonrd or scan the QR code for more information



## G=O+O Interpreter service

For languages other than English call 131 450 Fillipino - Gujarati - Punjabi - Hindi - Tamii

Para sa serbisyo ng interpreter sa ibang mga wika maliban sa Ingles, tumawag sa 131 450 અંગ્રેજી સિવાયની ભાષાઓમાં દુભાષિયા સેવા માટે ૧૩૧

ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਤੋਂ ਇਲਾਵਾ ਦੁਸਰੀਆਂ ਭਾਵਾਵਾਂ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਦੁਭਾਵੀਆ ਸੇਵਾ ਲਈ ਫ਼ੋਨ ਕਰੋ 131 450

अंग्रेज़ी के अतिरिक्त अन्य भाषाओं के लिए दुभाषिया सेवा 131 450 पर कॉल करें

ஆங்கிலம் தவிர்ந்த ஏனைப மொழிசஞக்கான மொழிபெயர்த்துரைப்பாளர் சேவைக்கு அழையுக்கள் 131 450



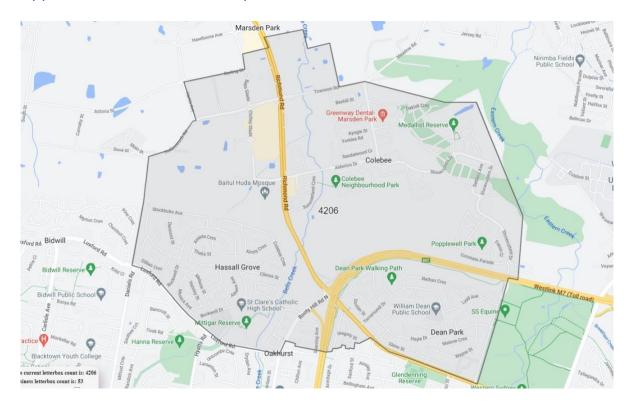
June 2024

Friency Transpart for NSW | TRNSW | is subject to the Privacy and Personal Information Personal Resources Act 1999 | PPP Act | which requires that we comply with the Information Privacy Privacy Jesus et our in the PPP Act. All information in correspondence is cofe-card for the exterparts of assisting in the delivery this project. The exterparts are consistent and addresses of requirements, may be pushed and in advantage of accumentation are care in additional privacy and active and addresses of the published of in advantage of accumentation and active active and active active and active act

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### Appendix B – Distribution map June 2024

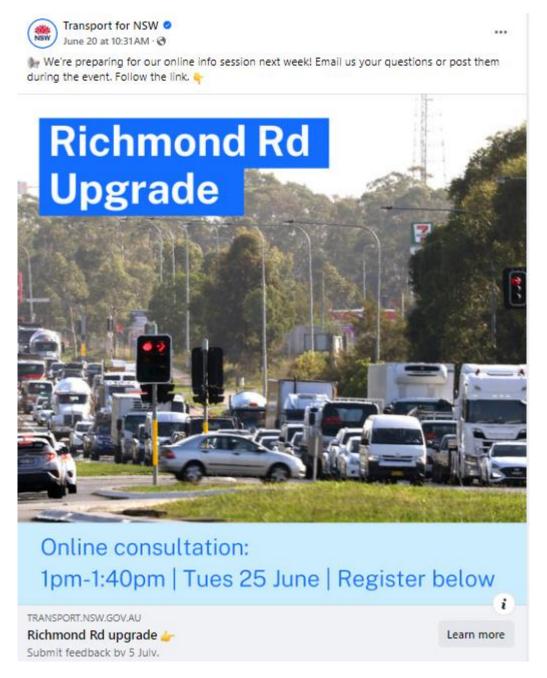


### Appendix C – Social Media

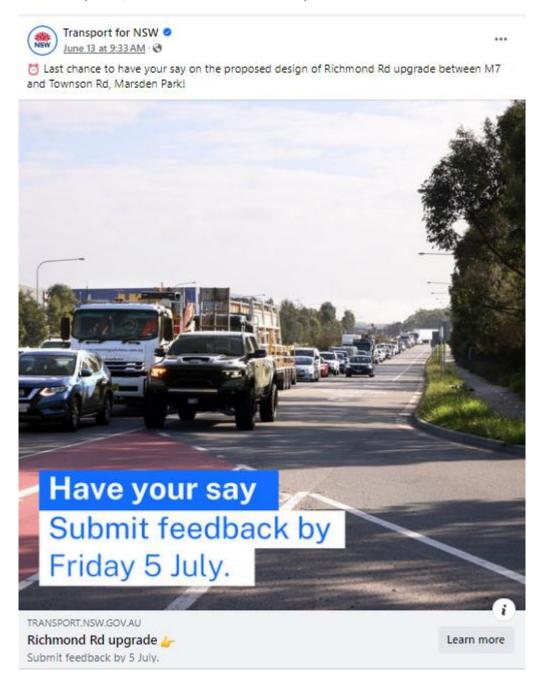
### Facebook post 1, from 14 June 2024 to 18 June 2024



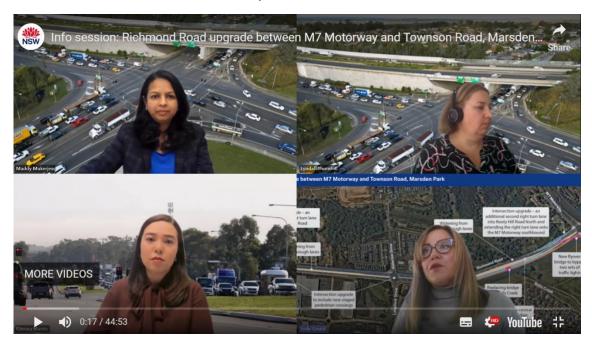
#### Facebook post 2, from 19 June 2024 to 24 June 2024



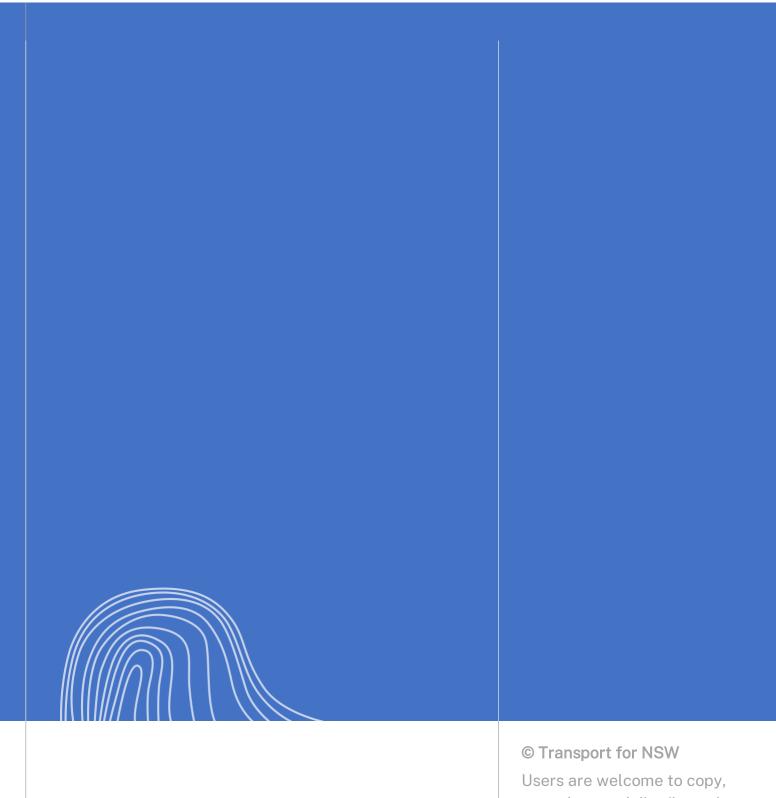
#### Facebook post 3, from 25 June 2024 to 2 July 2024



### Online information session on Tuesday 25 June 2024



Web link: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jA7-FTXAtUw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jA7-FTXAtUw</a>



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