

Parkes Bypass Newell Highway upgrade

Community Update

December 2024



Australian Government

BUILDING AUSTRALIA



The roundabout on Condobolin Road is really taking shape

The Australian and NSW Governments are investing \$287.2 million in the Parkes Bypass to improve connectivity, road transport efficiency and safety for all motorists.

Condobolin Road roundabout taking shape

The four-way roundabout at Condobolin Road is a significant feature of the Parkes Bypass, facilitating convenient entry into the Parkes township, and an efficient way to keep traffic flowing on the Highway.

The roundabout is 98 metres in diameter, the biggest in the Central West, and has been designed to accommodate B-Doubles and speeds of 80 km/h.

The closure of Condobolin Road, between Ross Road and Marshall Place, from early July was required to allow construction to start on the roundabout.

Condobolin Road has now reopened to traffic, while some changed traffic arrangements remain in place to continue to safely facilitate construction. We have included a map on the back of this update to show traffic changes that are in place as part of this ongoing work.

Transport for NSW (Transport) is working with Parkes Shire Council on a sculpture to feature in the centre of the roundabout as an entry treatment encouraging visitors to enter the Parkes township.

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



Raised beds installed on Ross Road

Landscaping is one of the major elements that contribute to the character of an area.

The Parkes Bypass project's landscape design strategy reinforces the existing landscape character of the Bypass corridor and enables vegetation regeneration with species native to the local area.

As well as being part of the urban design for the project, the landscaping component will provide visual screening of the Highway as well as wildlife habitat and shade. It also plays a great role in the stabilisation of soil and minimising erosion. Plant selection has been carefully considered for the Parkes environment, where species have been chosen for their suitability to the local climate, able to withstand the heat of summer but also the frosts of winter. There will be plantings in various locations along the entire alignment of the Bypass, which are a mix of woodland trees, ornamental trees, tall shrubs, grasses and groundcovers.

200,000m²

(or the equivalent of around 27 rugby fields) has been revegetated with seed mixes.



As part of the early works for the project, a number of raised beds were installed alongside Ross Road. Beds similar to this will feature in other locations along the Bypass.

Species to be planted include, but are not limited to:

- Lemon scented gum
- White box
- Western grey box
- Yellow box
- Native Blackthorn
- Western Silver Wattle
- Cut leaf Goodenia
- Creeping Saltbush
- Yellow Buttons
- Casuarina Glauca Cousin It

Any ground that has been disturbed during the project will be re-seeded with various seed mixes like grasses and Woodland Box Gums.

Parkes is home to remnants of Box Gum Woodlands which are important for both ecology and community. The project is committed to keeping existing vegetation where possible. Landscaping is expected to start towards the end of the project, so keep an eye out!



Northern Connection

The northern connection of the Bypass to the existing Newell Highway is progressing well with Stage 1 and 2 completed.

We have been switching traffic either side of the road to safely facilitate construction works which included earthworks, drainage and pavement construction.

We are now commencing Stage 3 work on the western side of the road, switching traffic to the east. When the Bypass opens, the Bogan Road T-intersection will allow motorists onto the Bypass, where they can travel north for 400m, then head back into the town of Parkes via the slip road.

The northern connection of the Parkes Bypass to the existing Newell Highway



The Parkes Bypass team at an early morning toolbox talk

Celebrating our dedicated team

Constructing a road requires more than just materials and machinery – it's a collective effort of our people. Since construction on the Parkes Bypass began, we've collaborated with local and Aboriginal businesses, employed apprentices and learning workers, women in non-traditional roles and workers identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders. From our environmental officers, engineers, surveyors and plant operators, each person contributes to achieving our project goals. Together, we're forging a legacy and we eagerly anticipate the completion of the biggest infrastructure project in Parkes, to date.



- 34 local businesses
- 5 Aboriginal businesses
- 22 apprentices
- 42 learning workers
- 6 women in non-traditional roles
- 116 workers identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Trait Islander

Words from one of our local suppliers

The second and final package of noise abatement works for the project is being carried out by MAATHA – an Aboriginal owned business based in the Central West. Proud Wiradjuri man and MAATHA Site Manager Jordan Simpson said:

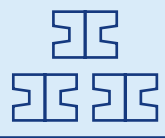
"We are proud to work with Transport for NSW on the Parkes Bypass project – we love working regionally in the Central West."

Bridge over Rail

Over the past year there has been significant progress in the construction of the Bridge over Rail and Hartigan Avenue.

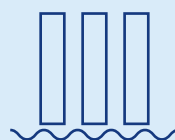
We have completed concrete work for five of the six spans, bringing these sections to their final concrete level. The embankment work for the northern abutment and piling has finished, which enabled the final six girders to be placed on 15 October.

The installation of safety walls, known as parapets, along the edges of the bridge deck has started. This process involves lifting precast concrete units, weighing approximately four tonnes each, to provide protective barriers for vehicles on the bridge.



36

rail bridge girders
have been installed



48

rail bridge piles
have been
constructed



The final girders being lifted for the Bridge over Rail

Hartigan Avenue extension open

The new Hartigan Avenue extension has undergone significant progress and is now fully open.

The final section of the Hartigan Avenue extension opened in November 2024, allowing traffic to pass underneath the Bridge over Rail. This has also enabled the closure of Brolgan Road between Link Road and the Hartigan Avenue extension, for the construction of the Bypass alignment overhead.

Westlime Road, spanning from Brolgan Road to Condobolin Road, remains closed to facilitate construction of the northern bridge abutment of the Bridge over Rail and Hartigan Avenue, as well as work on the Bypass alignment.



Traffic conditions around Hartigan Avenue

Victoria Street Bridge

All piling has been completed for the Victoria Street Bridge, and construction has commenced for the two abutments.

The bridge is expected to open in early 2025, but the next stage of work will be to lift the six 33-metre long girders into place, which is expected to take place by December. Once the girders have been lifted, the deck will be poured, and work can start on the shared path.

A 2.5-kilometre shared path will allow pedestrians and cyclists to travel over the bridge, along the new Newell Highway across Condobolin Road, further along the new Newell Highway then under the new Bridge over Rail and Hartigan Avenue, then link up with the Special Activation Precinct shared user path.

Naturally Occurring Asbestos update

Following the discovery of Naturally Occurring Asbestos (NOA) on the Parkes Bypass site in 2022, the project team has safely excavated and encapsulated NOA within the project site, in accordance with Transport’s approved Asbestos Management Plan.

Over 95 per cent of material with the potential to contain NOA has been excavated and encapsulated within the project site.

As work continues, some work locations will remain under approved asbestos management controls, however most air monitors have now been removed. If further NOA material is encountered, works will continue to be managed under the approved controls, and we will continue to keep the community informed.

More information about NOA on the Parkes Bypass project, including the air monitoring results, is available online at nswroads.work/parkesbypass.



The project team inspecting remediated areas of the Bypass



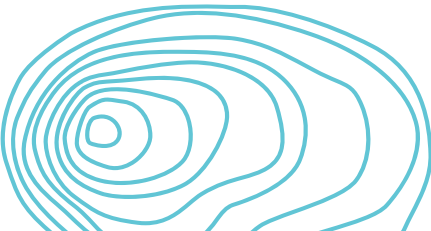
Wiradjuri artist to develop an art concept and design

Transport is committed to respecting and supporting the recognition of Aboriginal heritage and promoting and developing Wiradjuri culture in and around Parkes Shire.

Parkes is a diverse, dynamic and growing place. Cultural expression and engagement is important to who we are as a community, with a connection to our past and contributing to our strong future.

Transport is working with artists and local communities to develop artwork that represents the culture of Parkes. The artwork will be digitised by a graphic designer to appear as a key urban design feature and entrance statements to Parkes on bridge mesh screens, on the bridge over the Newell Highway on Victoria Street.

Aboriginal artwork is also being used on the Signposting Country signs at either end of the Bypass which will signify that the project has been constructed on Wiradjuri Country.

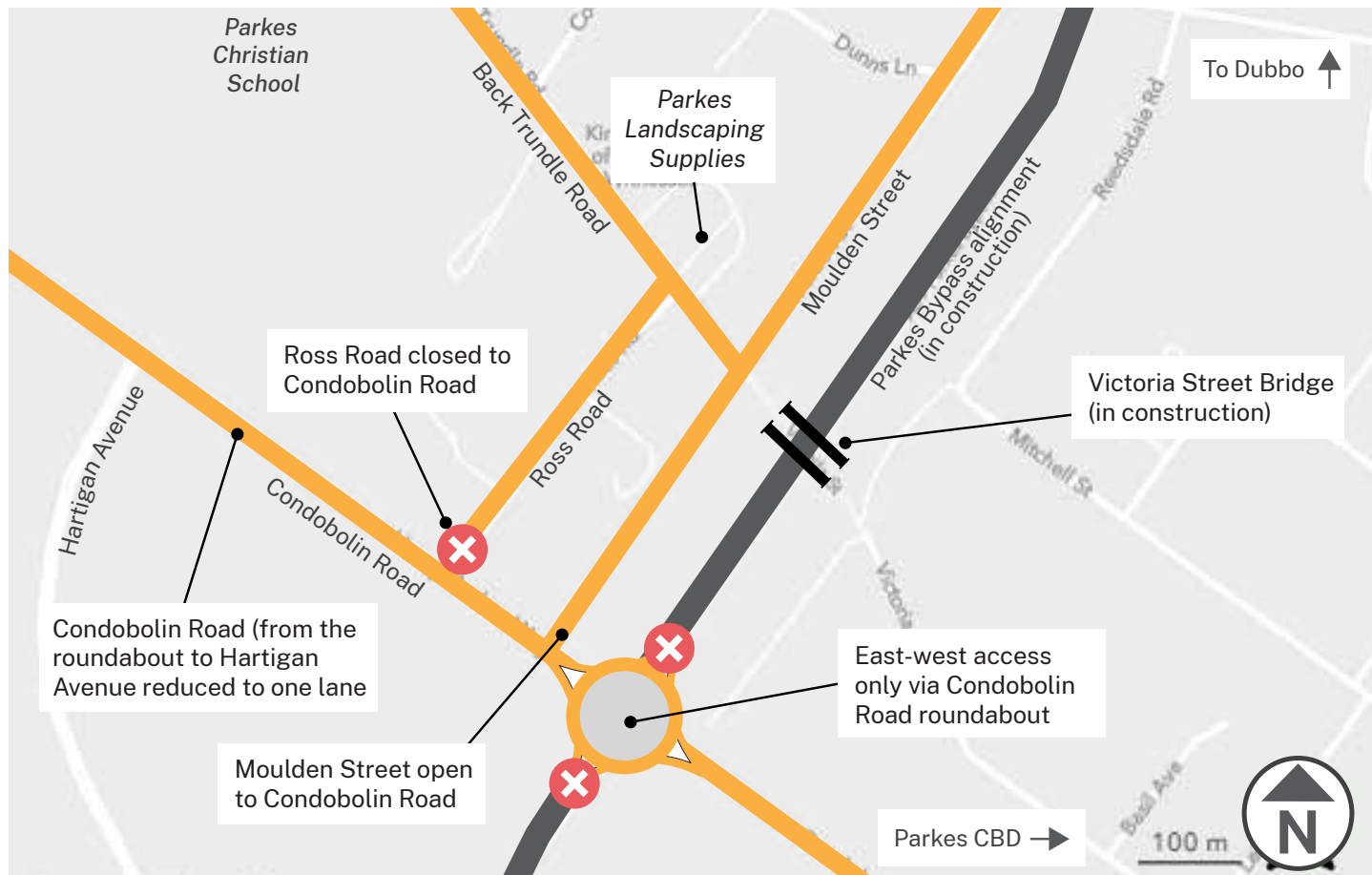


Changed traffic conditions near Condobolin Road for the Parkes Bypass project

Condobolin Road re-opened to traffic in November, after four months of constructing the Condobolin Road roundabout.

Traffic can use the new roundabout to travel between Condobolin and Parkes, however, access to and use of the new bypass via the roundabout will not be available until the project is complete in mid 2025.

Ross Road is currently closed to through traffic and Moulden Street will be reopened for local traffic access between Back Trundle Road and Condobolin Road.



Contact us



Project Infoline **1800 741 636 (option 3)**



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nswroads.work/parkesbypass

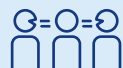


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