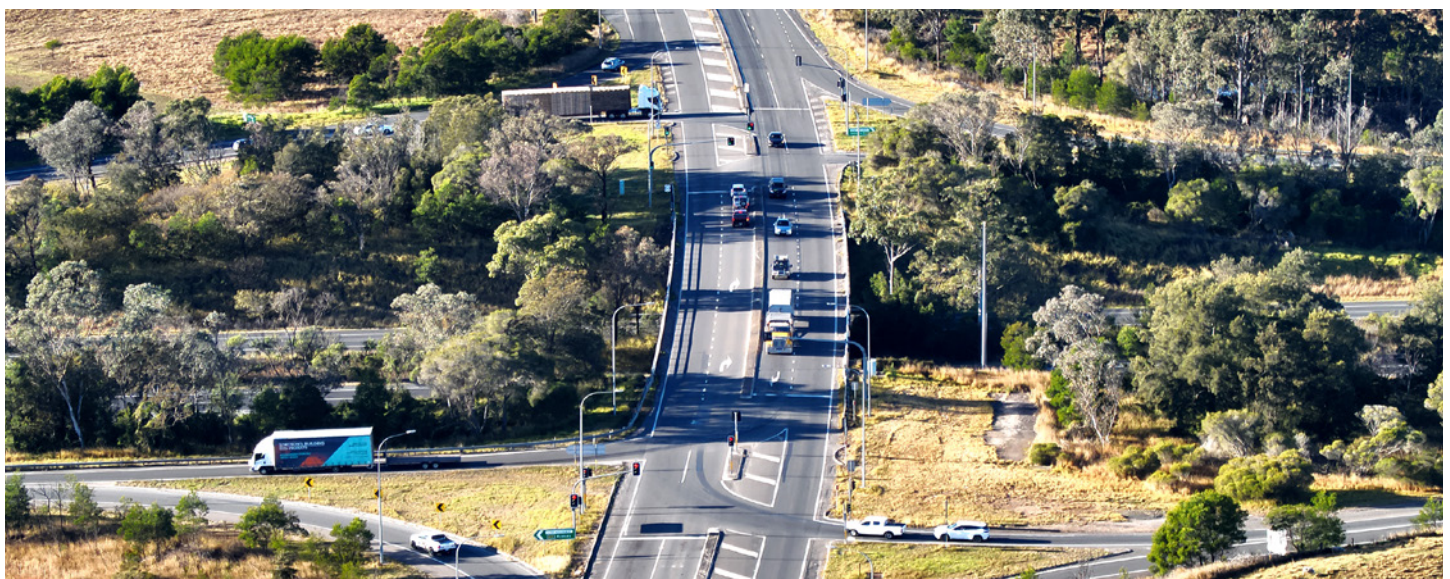


Picton Road upgrade

Project update | July 2024



The interchange at Picton Road and M31 Hume Motorway

Transport for NSW (Transport) is continuing planning and design work for the upgrade of Picton Road between the Nepean River and the M1 Princes Motorway, including the interchanges at the M31 Hume Motorway and the M1 Princes Motorway.

The key objectives of the Picton Road upgrade are to:

- Improve safety for users of the corridor
- Improve efficiency and access for freight
- Increase connectivity and liveability for communities
- Enable a more reliable and efficient journey between Western Sydney, Wilton Growth Area and the Illawarra-Shoalhaven
- Provide a resilient transport corridor that seeks to protect cultural heritage and considers environmental outcomes.

In this update

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- What's been happening
- Next steps for the program
- Connecting with Country



Improved efficiency and access for freight



Safer and more reliable journeys



Increased connectivity and liveability for communities

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

About the program

The Australian Government and NSW Government have committed \$80.7 million and \$44 million respectively to planning the upgrade of Picton Road.

Picton Road is a key east-west corridor connecting the Illawarra-Shoalhaven to Sydney and the Greater Macarthur Growth Area.

The corridor is a critical freight link between Port Kembla and the Illawarra-Shoalhaven, and delivery of this upgrade is vital in supporting NSW's growing freight task.

The Picton Road upgrade includes about 30 kilometres of Picton Road, between the Nepean River and the M1 Princes Motorway.

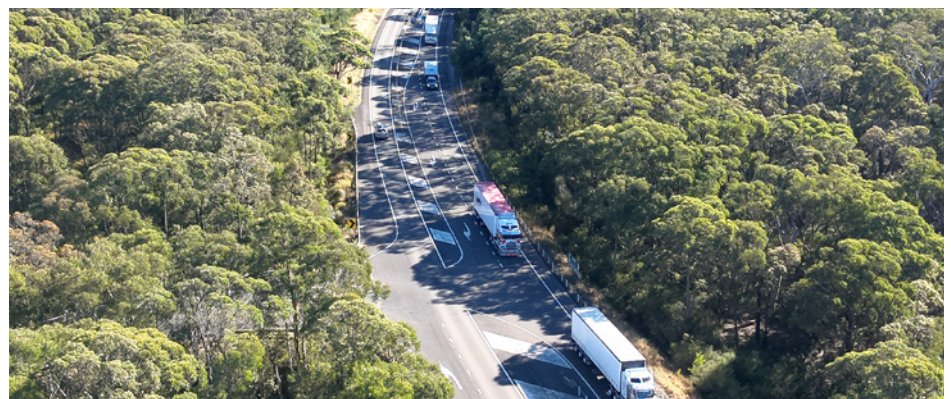
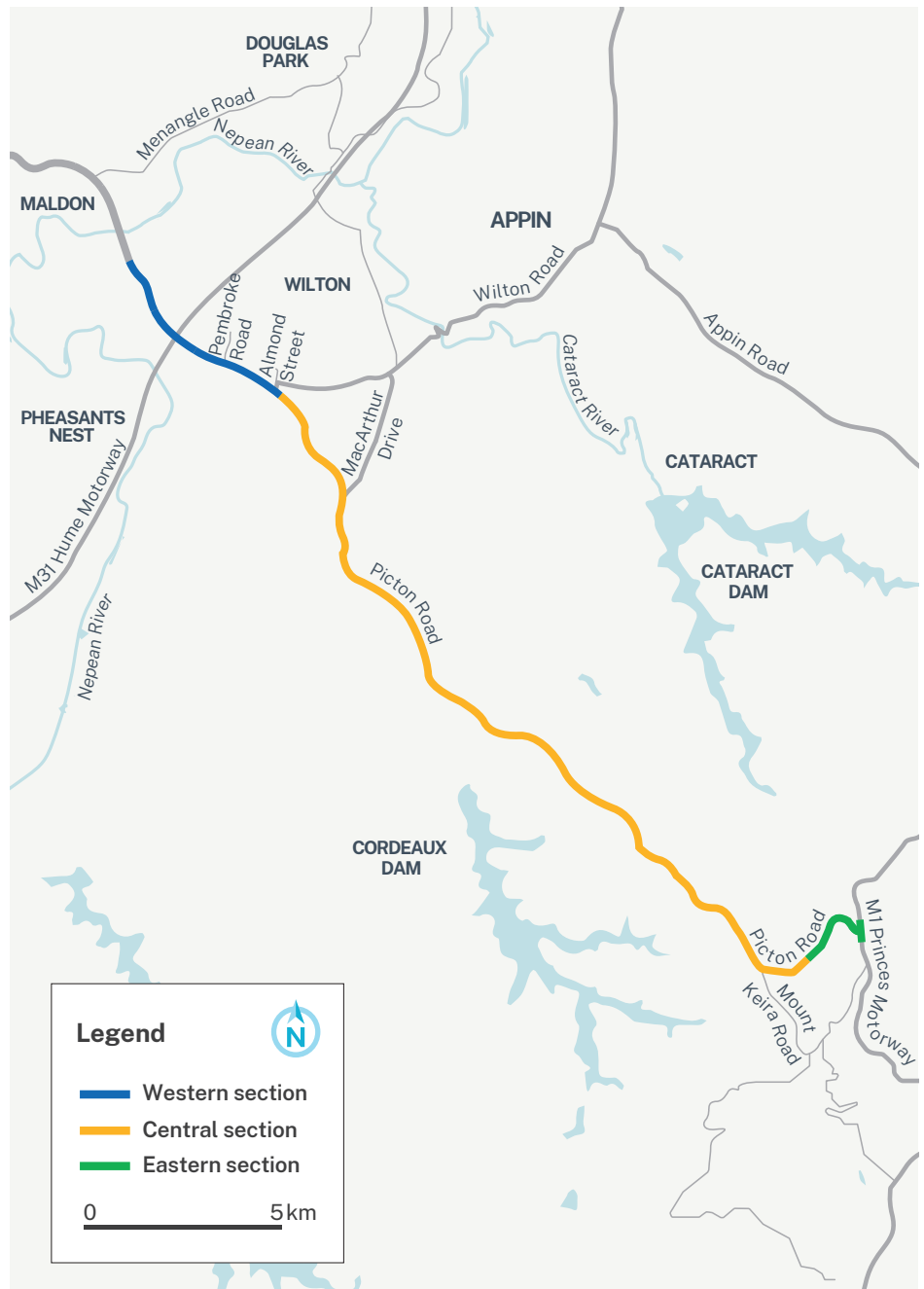
The upgrade has been divided into three sections:

- **western section:** between the Nepean River and Almond Street, Wilton including the M31 Hume Motorway interchange
- **central section:** from Almond Street, Wilton to around Mount Keira Road
- **eastern section:** from Mount Keira Road to the M1 Princes Motorway including the interchange.

The western section is progressing first, with community feedback recently received on the Review of Environmental Factors (REF). The central and eastern sections are currently in the early planning and option design development phase.

Timing and funding for construction are yet to be confirmed.

Picton Road upgrade



The intersection at Picton Road and Mount Keira Road

What's been happening

Central and eastern sections

The central and eastern sections of the upgrade extend from Almond Street at Wilton to the M1 Princes Motorway interchange.

To support the planning of these sections we have been carrying out site investigations over the past two years and will continue these investigations in 2024 and 2025. These include:

- biodiversity studies to identify plant and animal species and communities
- utility investigations to capture underground service locations
- ground surveys to identify land features and structures
- Aboriginal cultural values and archaeological investigations.

This work will help to identify key considerations and constraints in relation to biodiversity, heritage, geology, soils, water quality, land use, traffic and transport and utilities.

There are a number of known constructability and environmental constraints associated with upgrading and increasing the capacity of Picton Road in these sections. The project area:

- forms part of the Sydney drinking water catchment
- has varying topography including ridges and deep gullies
- is known to be home to threatened flora and fauna species
- has high cultural value and contains many Aboriginal heritage sites.

Throughout the next year, you may see workers out and about on Picton Road as Transport continues these site investigations to ensure these constraints are well understood.

This will allow carefully considered design options to be developed that minimise impacts to the community and environment as much as possible.



You may see workers on Picton Road as Transport continues site investigations

Western section

The western section of the Picton Road upgrade includes the area between the Nepean River and Almond Street in Wilton, including the M31 Hume Motorway interchange.

The key features of the western section include:

- widening and upgrading about five kilometres of Picton Road between the Nepean River and Almond Street in Wilton
- upgrading the existing Picton Road and M31 Hume Motorway interchange into a diverging diamond layout
- reconfiguring the existing Picton Road intersections with Wilton Park Road, Aerodrome Drive, Janderra Lane and Almond Street.

Earlier this year, the community was invited to have their say on the REF for the western section of the upgrade.

More than 100 submissions were received during the consultation period, which closed on 14 March 2024. The key themes raised included community access to local roads, emergency services access, future developments and the functionality of the Picton Road and M31 Hume Motorway interchange. Transport will respond to feedback received during the display in the submissions report, which is planned to be released in late 2024.

Did you know?

Transport recently carried out fauna investigation work for the project using a drone. The drone used thermal imaging to detect animal heat signals, in particular koalas and southern greater gliders. Both species were identified through these investigations, including this koala and its joey.



Next steps

Central and eastern sections

Transport recently invited expressions of interest from qualified companies to carry out further site investigations and commence the development of options for the upgrade of Picton Road between Almond Street, Wilton and the M1 Princes Motorway. Following a competitive tender process, Transport will look to award a contract in late 2024.

After a contract is awarded, the successful tenderer will be on site in the local area to fully understand all the factors influencing the design options for the future upgrade of the central and eastern sections.

The team will start early work on a range of design options that are sensitive to the local environment and the needs of road users and the local community.

Western section

Transport is now collating feedback received during the display of the REF. A submissions report is being prepared responding to feedback received. We will inform the community when the submissions report is publicly available.

Other projects in the area

Picton bypass

The Picton bypass project will be carrying out investigation work for the planning of the project in the coming months. For the latest information on the Picton bypass project as it continues to progress:

Visit: nswroads.work/pictonbypass

Phone: 1800 270 726

Email: pictonbypass@transport.nsw.gov.au

Connecting with Country

The Picton Road upgrade is on Dharawal Country. Transport for NSW recognises and celebrates the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing culture, spiritual beliefs and connections to Country.

Transport continues to work with Dharawal knowledge holders, Registered Aboriginal Parties, Traditional Owners and other Aboriginal stakeholders to understand potential impacts to Aboriginal heritage and cultural values.

As part of planning for the upgrade, Transport recently carried out archaeological investigations in the eastern section with Aboriginal site officers. Registered Aboriginal Parties will be invited to provide feedback on the findings of the investigations.

Transport is organising an upcoming workshop to discuss how we might effectively use design outcomes to enhance culture and stories within Dharawal Country along Picton Road.

Scan the QR code to visit the Yanmanjang – Walking together portal which provides a narrative of cultural values, archaeological findings relevant to the upgrade and dreaming stories.



Stay up to date with the project

Scan the QR code to register for regular updates on the project.



Contact us



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Interpreter service

For languages other than English call **131 450**

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