

Picton Road upgrade

Between Nepean River and Almond Street, Wilton

Project update | Submissions report released

December 2024



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.

Display of the Review of Environmental Factors

The western section of the Picton Road upgrade project has now been approved to proceed. This follows the completion of the environmental assessment and analysis of feedback received during the public display of the Review of Environmental Factors (REF) report and concept design earlier this year.

During the display, 103 submissions were received from the community and other stakeholders.

Transport has assessed the submissions and prepared a report responding to feedback. The majority of submissions support an upgrade of Picton Road.

The main issues raised in submissions included:

- concerns with elements of the proposed design of the Picton Road and M31 Hume Motorway interchange, including the inclusion of traffic lights and its capacity to cater for future growth
- concerns about the timing and impacts of the introduction of left-in, left-out arrangements proposed for local road intersections.

Responding to feedback

Transport carried out a comprehensive options assessment process to determine the preferred option for the design of the Picton Road and M31 Hume Motorway interchange.

This included an assessment of layouts such as clover leaf, roundabout, double roundabouts, options with flyovers and a four-way signalised intersection.

Many of these design options were not feasible due to their scale and potential impacts on biodiversity and land use.

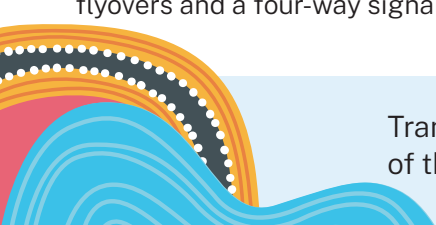
The Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) was selected as the preferred option as it delivers the required capacity, safety, reliability and efficiency while minimising impact to the surrounding area.

The interchange currently experiences traffic congestion, with delays of up to five minutes for some movements. Without the project, it is projected that traffic delays will increase up to 12 minutes.

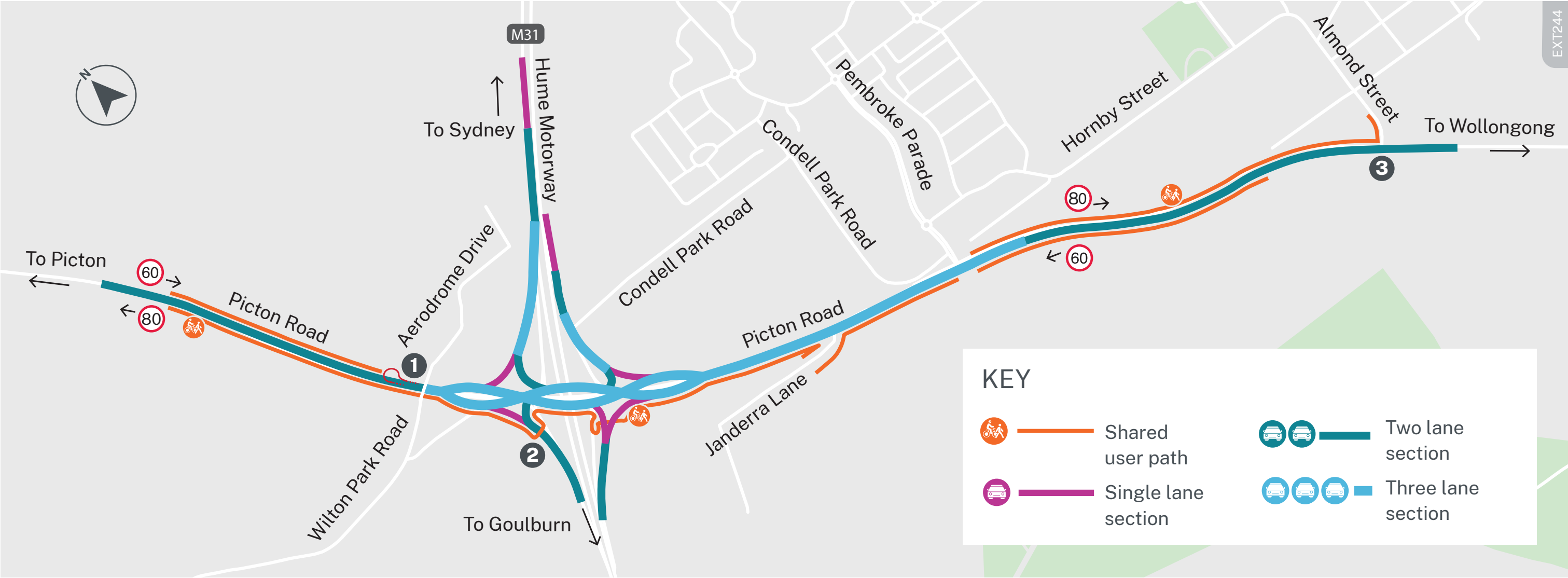
Traffic modelling indicates that the DDI will perform well in 2046 (accounting for expected traffic growth), with a maximum wait time of 34 seconds for the slowest movement in the interchange during peak time. The majority of traffic travelling through the DDI would be stopped at no more than one set of traffic signals, and the design would provide increased green time during peak times.



Artist's impression of the Picton Road and M31 Hume Motorway interchange



Changes to key features of the proposal



Proposal for Picton Road upgrade between Nepean River and Almond Street, Wilton

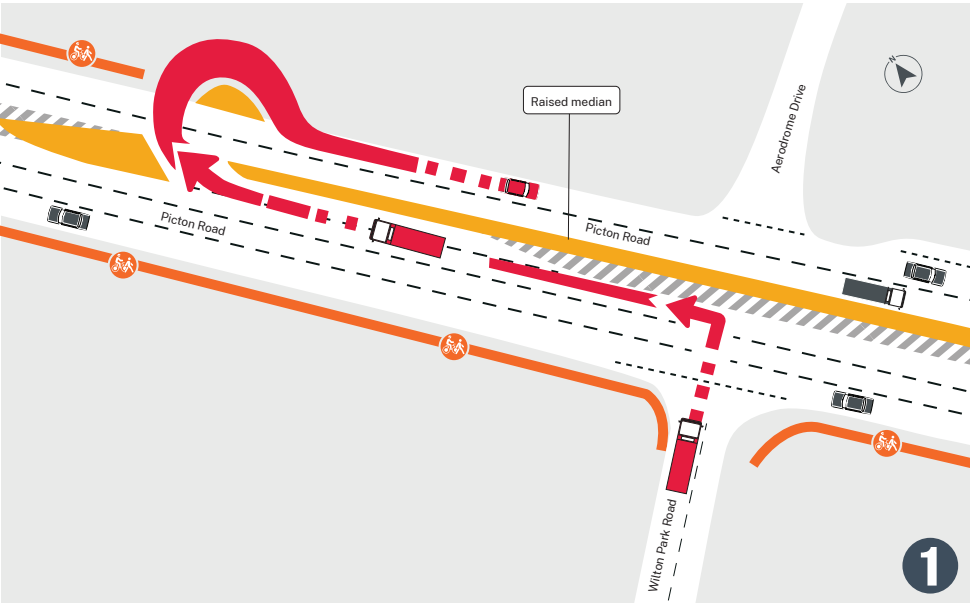


Figure 1: Vehicle U-turn facility west of Wilton Park Road intersection

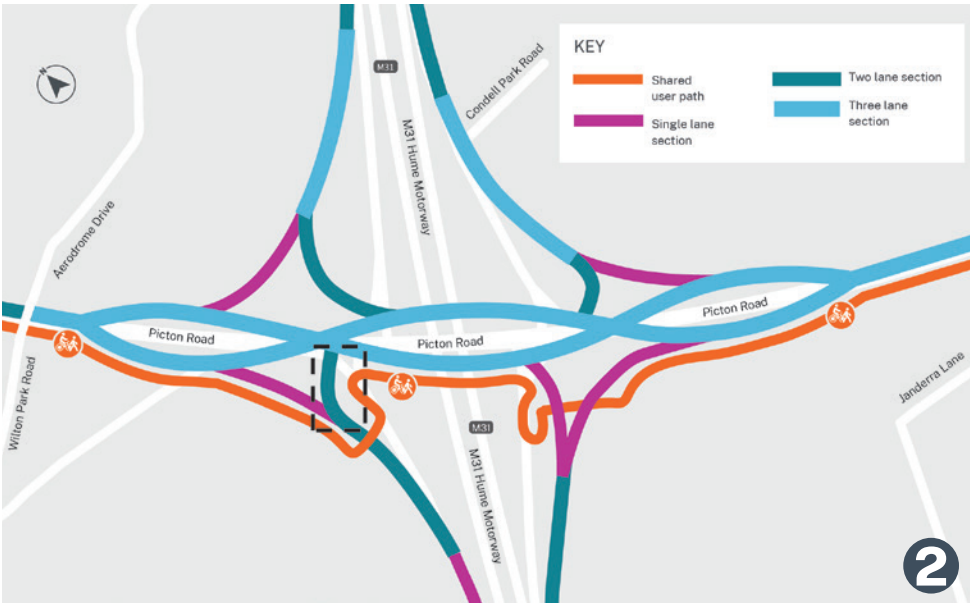


Figure 2: Additional (second) lane on M31 Hume Motorway northbound off-ramp at interchange with Picton Road

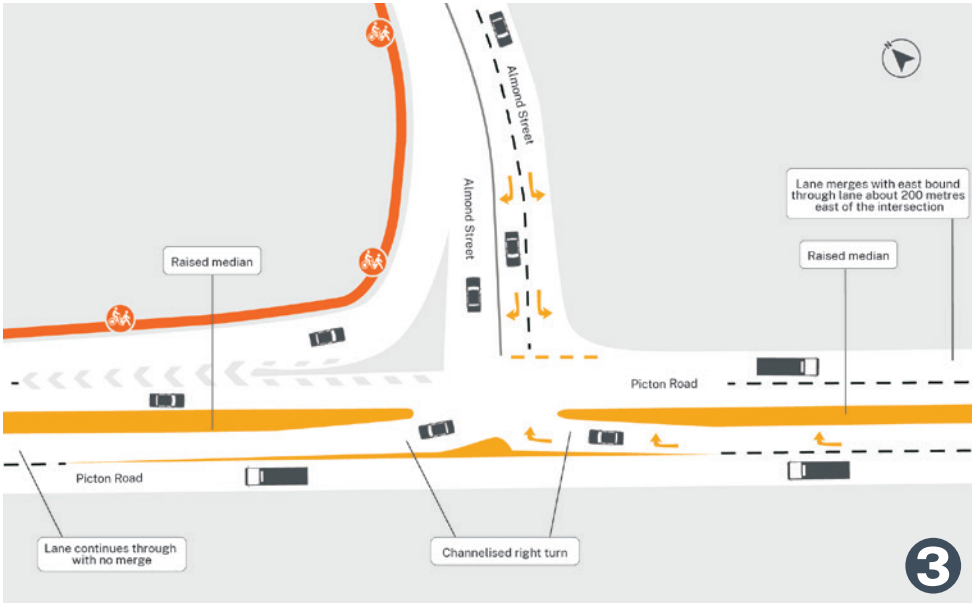


Figure 3: Channelised right turn at Almond Street intersection included in Stage 1

Changes to the proposal

In response to feedback, Transport has made some changes to the proposal, outlined below. More detailed information is available in the submissions report.

Vehicle U-turn facility west of Wilton Park Road intersection

Transport will provide an interim U-turn facility about 100 metres west of the existing Wilton Park Road intersection. This would allow vehicles travelling west on Picton Road, including people exiting Wilton Park Road, to make a U-turn movement to travel eastbound towards the M31 Hume Motorway and Wollongong.

A right turn lane would also be provided to allow vehicles to safely access the U-turn facility.

This arrangement would remain in place until the developer-funded traffic signals are constructed at the same location.

See figure 1 over the page.

Additional (second) lane on M31 Hume Motorway northbound off ramp at the interchange with Picton Road

The concept design presented in the REF included a single right turn lane at the northbound off ramp from the M31 Hume Motorway at the interchange.

Further design development following feedback has identified an opportunity to provide an additional right turn lane onto Picton Road from this off ramp as shown in **figure 2 over the page**.

This would enable more vehicles to exit the M31 Hume Motorway onto Picton Road and minimise the potential for vehicle queues extending south, as well as increase capacity to manage incidents.

Channelised right turn at Almond Street intersection included in Stage 1

Transport will provide channelised right and left turn lanes off Picton Road for vehicles entering Almond Street and a separate lane for vehicles turning right out of Almond Street to travel westbound, as shown in **figure 3 over the page**. This will mean all movements in and out of Almond Street are maintained under safer conditions for motorists.

This arrangement would remain in place until the developer-funded Almond Street interchange overpass is constructed, when access would then change to left-in, left-out at this intersection.

Removal of impacts on avoided land

Optimisation of the drainage design for the proposal has meant that the potential direct impacts to 144 square metres of 'avoided land' mapped under the Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan will be avoided.

Progress on the central and eastern sections

The Picton Road upgrade project is divided into three sections – western, central and eastern. The central section begins at Almond Street, Wilton to around Mount Keira Road, and the eastern section runs from around Mount Keira Road to the M1 Princes Motorway interchange.

These sections are currently at the early planning and options development phase. Transport will continue to carry out site investigations in 2025 to support the early planning of these sections.

Transport recently invited tenders for further site investigations, constraints definition and development of design options for Picton Road between Almond Street, Wilton and the M1 Princes Motorway.

Transport expects to award a contract by early 2025.

Where can I get more information?

The submissions report is now available on Transport's project webpage www.transport.nsw.gov.au/pictonroad

Next steps

The project has been approved to proceed and all safeguards included in the submissions report will be implemented as the project progresses.

Over the coming months, Transport will:

- commence property acquisition
- continue to develop the design for construction
- seek construction funding.

Contact us

If you would like to know more about the project contact the project team:



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