



Pacific Highway improvements at Hexham (Hexham Straight Widening)

Project update – March to May 2025

March 2025



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

The Australian and NSW Governments are investing in the upgrade of the section of Maitland Road known as Hexham Straight, between Newcastle Inner City Bypass and Hexham Bridge, to improve safety and traffic flow for the 50,000 motorists who use this road every day.

Transport for NSW has formed an Alliance with Georgiou, Daracon and SMEC to design and build the project. Major construction has begun, and the project is expected to be open to traffic in 2026.

What we've been doing

Works underway or completed over the past three months:

- Continued median and shoulder widening, including asphalt and kerb replacement between Sandgate Cemetery and the Oak Precinct
- Continued relocation of utility services, including water, electrical, telecommunications and work on the traffic control signals.

What's happening

In the next three months work activities will include:

- Removal of the old bridge over Ironbark Creek and commencement of piling for the new northbound bridge
- Ongoing relocation of utility services and work on the traffic control signals
- Permanent closure of the right-hand turn into Ash Island and Brancourt Dairy
- Ongoing work in the median and shoulder widening on Maitland Road
- Ongoing utility and traffic control signals work at the Pacific Highway intersection.

When and where we'll be working

The work will occur along the length of the project from the Newcastle Inner City Bypass to the Oak Precinct.

Day work will be carried out **Monday to Friday** between **7am and 6pm** and **Saturday** from **8am to 1pm**. Night work will be carried out from **Sunday to Thursday** between **6pm and 7am**.

What will this mean for you?

During night work there may be temporary lane closures. During lane closures, intermittent stop/slow traffic control and a reduced speed limit of 40km/h will be in place in the work zones.

A temporary 60km/h reduced speed limit will remain in place through the work zone for the safety of motorists and workers.

Managing our impacts

There will be machinery and other plant and equipment working in different areas throughout the project. The machinery and equipment generate light, noise and vibration. We will make every effort to minimise these impacts by:

- Monitoring noise to manage any potential impacts and adjust our work, where possible
- Keeping residents informed about night work near their property
- Turning off machinery and vehicles when not in use and using non-tonal reversing alarms
- Adjusting the positioning of machines and directing temporary lighting down and away from homes during night work.



Bat Relocation Program

The Hexham Straight Widening team successfully carried out a Bat Relocation Program, relocating a colony of *Southern Myotis*, commonly known as fishing bats, from the existing bridge to the newly constructed bridge.

This initiative involved careful planning, ensuring relocation occurred during the non-breeding season to minimise impact. The team worked in coordination with the tides, carrying out the relocation during the day while the bats were safely housed in temporary bat boxes. The colony was closely monitored to ensure the successful transition to their new habitat.



Southern Myotis Bat

Easter Break

No work will be carried out during the Easter holiday period between Thursday 17 April and Tuesday 22 April 2025. Standby crews will be available during this time and site security, including surveillance cameras, will be in place.



View looking south from Old Maitland Road



View looking south from Sparke Street

Contact us



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nswroads.work/hexham



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Interpreter service

For language other than English call 131 450



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