

Parkes Bypass

Newell Highway upgrade

June 2025



Pictured above: Traffic using the new Parkes Bypass which was opened to Traffic on Tuesday 15 April 2025



Pictured above: The Hon. Jenny Aitchison, Minister for Regional Transport and Roads joined Transport's Acting Regional Director West and the Parkes Bypass Project team inspecting the newly opened bypass.

Traffic was switched onto the new Bypass on Tuesday 15 April.

Motorists travelling the Newell Highway through Parkes are now able travel on the entire Bypass, in both directions. The switch allows for the completion of the Parkes town entry connections at the southern and northern ends of the Bypass and other remaining works including construction of London Road, installation of entry and wayfinding signage, as well as landscaping and other finishing works.

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.





Construction is underway for the sculpture in the centre of the Condobolin Road roundabout.

Wayfinding on the Bypass

The project's wayfinding strategy was developed to support motorists in navigating the highway, as well as encouraging them to stop and explore the township of Parkes. See the next page for a map showing where some of these signs will be placed.

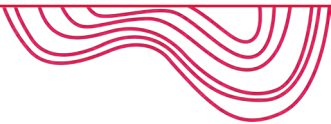
A number of signs will be strategically placed at locations along the Bypass to advise motorists where to turn to reach the Special Activation Precinct, Visitor Information Centre, as well as notifying that Parkes has accommodation, medical, food and caravanning amenities.

Work is moving forward on the sculpture in the middle of the Condobolin Road roundabout. Transport has worked with Parkes Shire Council for the design of a gateway sculpture to complement Council's wayfinding and destination strategies. The sculpture features a round "halo" design with a rainbow of colours and a 12-metre flagpole that will enable Council to install interchangeable banners to advertise local events.

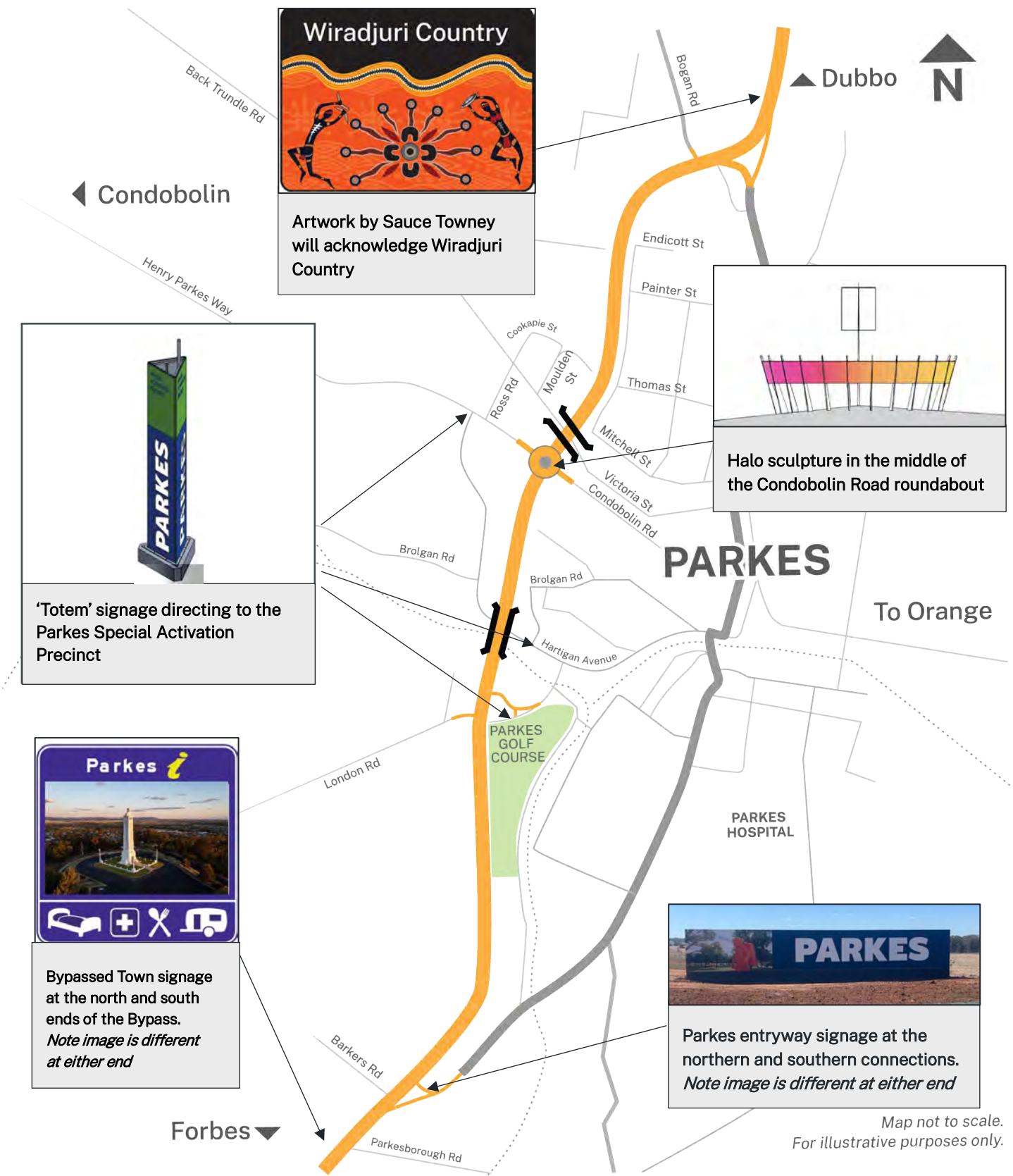


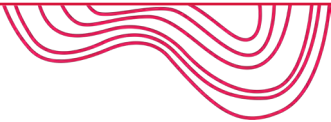
Entry signage to turn off the Bypass and head to Parkes at the northern connection.

Large entryway signs welcoming motorists to Parkes have been installed in collaboration with Council, and feature images of public art within the Parkes CBD.



Signage and wayfinding on the Bypass





Victoria Street Bridge nearing completion



The Victoria Street Bridge crossing over the Parkes Bypass

The final touches are being put on Victoria Street Bridge, with the installation of safety screens and asphaltting of the bridge now completed. The Victoria Street Bridge is a key feature of the project that was modified as a result of community feedback to accommodate both motorists as well as pedestrians.

The new bridge will open to traffic in the coming month, reconnecting Victoria Street to Moulden Street and Back Trundle Road, allowing vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists to cross to the western side of Parkes without having to interact with the Highway traffic.

Local Aboriginal artwork to be showcased on Victoria Street Bridge

Local Aboriginal artists and cousins, Kyah and Katlyn Turnbull, will have an interpretation of their artwork showcased on the safety screens for the Victoria Street Bridge. The artwork features the Gugaa (goanna), which is the totem animal for Wiradjuri people, as well as the Wambuwuny (kangaroo) and Wandayali (echidna), amongst meeting place symbols that represent Parkes and surrounding towns in the Parkes Shire.

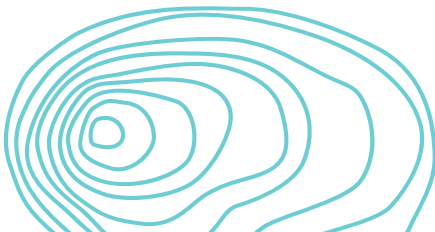
Sauce Towney has also produced an artwork that will feature on two Signposting Country signs at either end of the Bypass, acknowledging that Wiradjuri Country (see page 3).

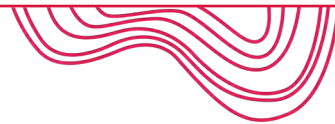


Local Aboriginal artist Kyah Turnbull with members of the project team



Kyah and Katlyn's submission which will be converted into a design for the Victoria Street Bridge safety screens





Construction of the northern connection underway, looking south

Construction underway on the northern and southern access roads

The northern and southern access road connecting the bypass to the Parkes township are continuing to be constructed. The connections are expected to be completed and open to traffic travelling in both directions in coming weeks. This means motorists will be able to enter and exit Parkes via either the old highway or the new Parkes Bypass with a smooth transitional link road at each end.



Looking north at the northern connection



Shared user path

Keep an eye out for updates on the new shared user path, which will provide a safe and accessible route for pedestrians and cyclists alike. Whether commuting, exercising, or enjoying a leisurely stroll, this path will connect our town and provide an accessible option to cross the Bypass.

The path will cross the Victoria Street Bridge, run adjacent to the highway on the southern/northern side of the road and loop under the Bridge over the rail lines and Hartigan Avenue.

Next steps

Remaining project activities and expected completion dates, weather permitting



Victoria Street Bridge opening
Early July

London Road works
Mid August

Southern Connection
Mid July

Northern Connection
Mid July

Installation of artwork
Mid July

Reopening of the Link Road
Late July

Shared user path
Late August



Above: The Hon. Jenny Aitchison, Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, Transport's Acting Regional Director West, Phil Donato MP, Stephen Lawrence MLC and Parkes Shire Mayor Cr Neil Westcott and Deputy Mayor Cr Marg Applebee.

Keeping you informed

Transport for NSW is committed to keeping you up to date on the Parkes Bypass project as it nears completion. If you have any questions or concerns about any of the topics raised in this update, please don't hesitate to get in touch with our team using the contact details below.

Contact us



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



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nswroads.work/parkesbypass



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