

Connecting Dapto to the M1 Princes Motorway

Community update

October 2025



Australian Government

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M1 Princes Motorway through Dapto

Transport for NSW is continuing to plan for south-facing entry and exit ramps onto the M1 Princes Motorway to better connect Dapto and surrounding suburbs.

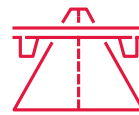
New south-facing ramps closer to Dapto would:

- reduce travel times
- improve road safety
- reduce traffic on local roads and within the Dapto and Albion Park Rail town centres
- support future growth
- improve access to services and jobs.

Currently, if you're heading south from Dapto or trying to return from the south, you need to travel further out of your way to get on or off the motorway. This can mean longer travel times, more congestion on local roads and less direct access to jobs, services and family and friends.

South-facing ramps would allow people to enter or exit the M1 Princes Motorway when travelling to or from areas south of Dapto.

Where are we now?



Over the past six months, we have been working to determine the best location for new ramps. We've assessed four possible locations, including south-facing entry and exit ramps at Kanahooka Road, Fowlers Road and Emerson Road. We also looked at the Yallah interchange in response to community feedback.

We are now at the stage where we can confirm south-facing entry and exit ramps will be further investigated at Fowlers Road and Kanahooka Road.

How we chose the options



The process to choose the most suitable locations considered safety, traffic and transport outcomes, cost, environment and sustainability impacts, and long-term benefits.

Review of options

We started by identifying a range of potential locations for new south-facing entry and exit ramps at Kanahooka, Fowlers and Emerson roads and, in response to community feedback, the Yallah interchange. We then assessed how each option aligned with the project's objectives: connectivity, safety, amenity and network resilience.

South-facing entry and exit ramps onto Emerson Road is not progressing as an option. Here's why.

Safety: This option would increase traffic on local roads between the Princes Highway and the M1 Princes Motorway, including roads that provide key access routes to local schools. These roads are designed for local traffic, pedestrians and cyclists; additional traffic may make the area less safe.

Community: This option is likely to increase noise levels for nearby homes due to additional traffic travelling through residential areas, compared to other location options.

Environment and sustainability: Initial environmental investigations have shown this option is likely to have greater impact on biodiversity due to its location near the Brooks Creek riparian corridor, which is home to the threatened species, grey-headed flying fox.

Travel time: While ramps at Emerson Road were found to improve motorway connectivity and travel time due to its central location, ramps at other locations were found to provide similar benefits with less constraints.

Resilience: The surrounding local road network with narrower residential streets is not suitable for detoured traffic in the event of an incident on the M1 Princes Motorway.

Flooding: New ramps at Emerson Road would require a larger construction footprint, as it is next to Brooks Creek and flood-prone to the east of the motorway. This would require careful planning or realignment of the creek to minimise impacting the waterway or increasing flood risk.

Limited space: The construction work area at Emerson Road is near Brooks Creek and has the likelihood of soft soils. This adds complexity, cost and potential delays during construction.

Yallah interchange

In response to community feedback, the Yallah interchange (originally proposed as part of the Albion Park Rail bypass) was considered as an alternative to the south-facing ramp locations at Dapto.

We identified south-facing entry and exit ramps at either Fowlers Road or Kanahooka Road better aligned with the project's objectives, including improved connectivity and safety outcomes for the Dapto community and improved opportunities for network resilience and incident response.

Further investigations will now be carried out at Fowlers Road and Kanahooka Road.



In choosing suitable locations we considered safety, traffic and transport outcomes, cost, environment and sustainability impacts.

What happens next?

You will see workers carrying out field investigations at Fowlers and Kanahooka roads in the coming months. Additional investigations will include:

- concept design and engineering investigations
- detailed traffic modelling, including on the local roads
- environmental studies, including on-the-ground field investigations
- cost estimates
- economic analysis.

Timing and funding of construction is not yet confirmed. This project will be assessed against other competing priorities around the state.

We're also looking at improvements that could be delivered alongside the ramps, including:

- better walking and cycling connections surrounding the proposed ramp locations
- road widening and key intersection upgrades
- provision for future Smart Motorway technology. Smart Motorway technology uses connected automated systems and live data to help traffic flow more smoothly and improve safety. It includes changing speed limits depending on traffic, opening or closing lanes, controlling how many cars join the motorway, and quickly spotting and responding to accidents or problems.



Better walking and cycling connections



Road widening and key intersection upgrades



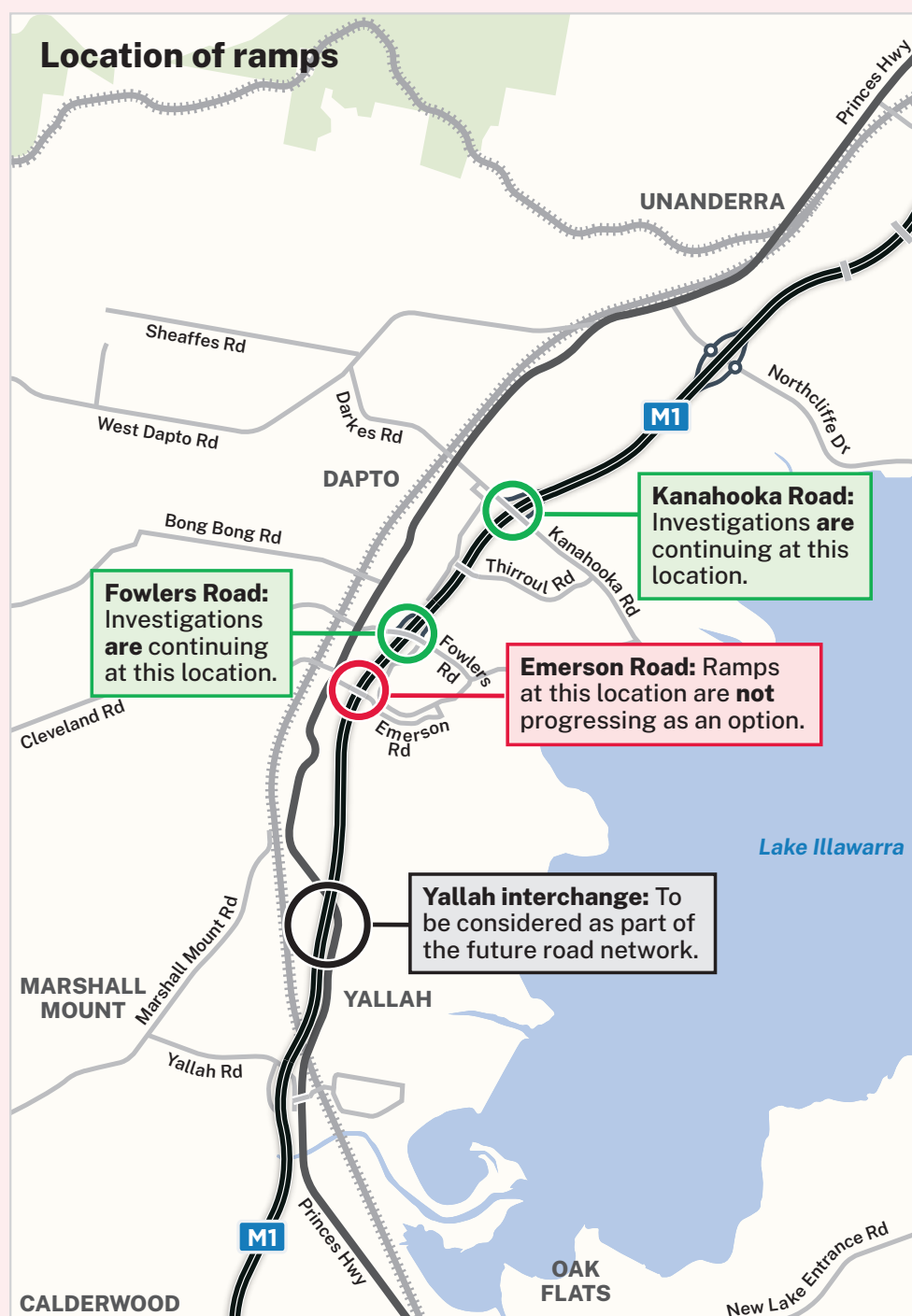
Provision for future Smart Motorway technologies



Princes Highway through Dapto town centre



Children riding bikes through Dapto town centre



Project milestones



Community feedback

Community feedback is an important part of this process. In November 2024, a community consultation summary report was released which reviewed over 4200 pieces of feedback from residents, community groups and businesses.

The preferred location for new south-facing entry and exit ramps will be announced in 2026. This will include a visualisation and further details on what the ramps could look like and where they would be built. The community will have the opportunity to provide feedback when we have a preferred option.




Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far. Your feedback is helping shape a safer, more connected future for Dapto and the wider region. If you would like to receive updates you can subscribe to our mailing list by emailing us at southprojects@transport.nsw.gov.au.



Princes Highway at Dapto

Stay informed

We'll continue to keep the community updated as we move through the next stages of planning. If you'd like to learn more or speak with the project team, you can:

-  **Project Manager, Erika Garbayo**
on 1800 312 766
-  **DaptoRamps@transport.nsw.gov.au**
-  **nswroads.work/dapto-ramps**



For the latest project updates, please visit the project website



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