

Transport for NSW

Planning for a transport connection between the Hume Motorway and Appin Road

Consultation on shortlisted corridor options for the Outer Sydney Orbital Stage 2



Supporting a future connection between Western Sydney and the Illawarra-Shoalhaven region

We would like your feedback on the shortlisted corridor options.

Transport for NSW is identifying a future transport link between the Hume Motorway and Appin Road, east of Appin township. Planning for this connection is part of the Outer Sydney Orbital Stage 2 corridor investigation, which will provide for a future road connecting new housing development, and employment growth anticipated for the area.

By 2031, the Western Parkland City will be home to over half of Sydney's population. To meet the needs of this growing community, we are planning

ahead to ensure future transport links are available for people across the Western Parkland City, communities in the Greater Macarthur area and regional areas including the Illawarra and Shoalhaven.

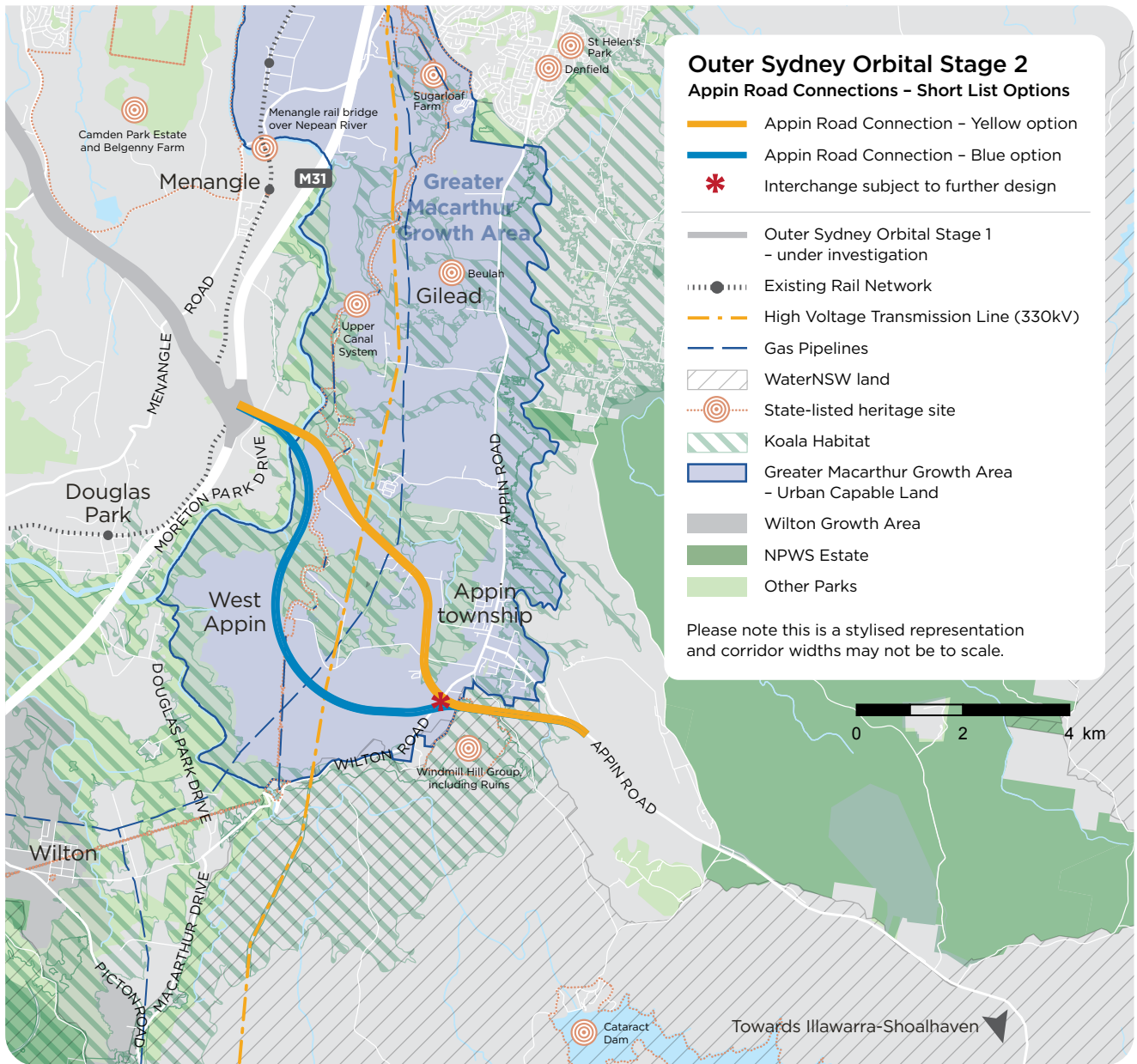
Securing land for the Outer Sydney Orbital Stage 2 corridor is an important step in realising the outcomes of Future Transport 2056 to better connect communities with jobs, services and amenities, and to help businesses move freight more efficiently. We need to plan ahead now.



Provide your feedback

We are seeking feedback on the short listed corridor options between the Hume Motorway and Appin Road, east of Appin township, by **14 December 2020**. You can use the interactive online mapping tool to see the locations of the corridor options, and provide feedback at transport.nsw.gov.au/corridors

Map of the shortlisted corridor options



Transport for NSW will continue working with other NSW Government agencies, local councils, stakeholders, landowners and community to identify a suitable corridor option.

About the Outer Sydney Orbital corridor

The Outer Sydney Orbital corridor will provide for city shaping transport infrastructure that will connect the Greater Sydney region with the Illawarra-Shoalhaven and the Central Coast. This future infrastructure will provide a vital transport link for growing communities and ensure residents, businesses and industries stay connected.

Planning for the Outer Sydney Orbital corridor is being carried out in three stages:

- **Stage 1:** will provide for transport connections between Richmond Road at Marsden Park in the north and the Hume Motorway in the south.
- **Stage 2:** will provide for transport connections between the Hume Motorway and the Illawarra-Shoalhaven. The first step in this significant project is to identify a future transport link between the Hume Motorway and Appin Road within the Greater Macarthur Growth Area. Further planning will be undertaken to connect Greater Macarthur to Wollongong and beyond.
- **Stage 3:** will provide transport connections between Richmond Road at Marsden Park and the Central Coast.

Note: Stage 1 of the Outer Sydney Orbital corridor was exhibited in 2018 and although some refinements have been made, such as relocating the interchange with the Hume Highway further north to use existing Government owned land, further refinements are being considered before the corridor is confirmed. Stakeholders, landowners and communities will be provided with updates of the corridor investigation process for Stage 1.



Planning for Stage 2 of the Outer Sydney Orbital corridor

Planning for the Outer Sydney Orbital Stage 2 Corridor will consider the long-term infrastructure needs to better connect the Western Parkland City and the Illawarra Shoalhaven region. Planning for Stage 2 corridor is being carried out in three key sections:

- Sector 1: Greater Macarthur Growth Area options – identifying a connection between the Hume Motorway through the Greater Macarthur Growth Area to Appin Road, east of Appin township – released for consultation November 2020
- Sector 2: Appin and Picton Road corridors for potential upgrade through WaterNSW’s water catchment area (Metropolitan Special Area) – further planning required
- Sector 3: Illawarra Connections – a potential new Illawarra Escarpment crossing – further planning required

Two shortlisted future road corridor options have been identified for Sector 1 connecting the Hume Motorway to Appin Road. Both these options

continue from the proposed Stage 1 of the Outer Sydney Orbital corridor which interchanges along the Hume Motorway (M31), to connect with Appin Road, east of Appin township. The future freight rail would continue along via the existing Maldon to Dombarton Rail Line.

These corridor options have been identified following initial technical investigations which included a long list of corridor options, and in consultation with key Government agencies and other stakeholders.

Where possible, the corridor options use Government owned land, including land adjoining the Hume Motorway, and south of Appin. This sector of the Outer Sydney Orbital Stage 2 corridor will be incorporated into the planning of Greater Macarthur Growth Area, integrating land use and transport planning.

Impacts on existing communities and critical habitat, including koala habitat, have been avoided wherever possible.

Feedback can be provided on the shortlisted corridor options to help identify a suitable recommended corridor for future transport use.

The Future of Appin Road and Picton Road

Both Appin Road, east of Appin township, and Picton Road, south of the Hume Motorway, are expected to continue to have important functions for inter-regional road traffic.

Picton Road provides the most direct connection between Port Kembla and Western Sydney, while Appin Road will provide an increasingly important role connecting the Greater Macarthur Growth Area and the Illawarra-Shoalhaven region.

The Stage 2 Outer Sydney Orbital corridor investigation has initially focused on connections through the Greater Macarthur Growth Area to Appin Road as another study is considering the future upgrading of Picton Road. Corridor needs between the Greater Macarthur Growth Area and Picton Road will be considered as the latter progresses.

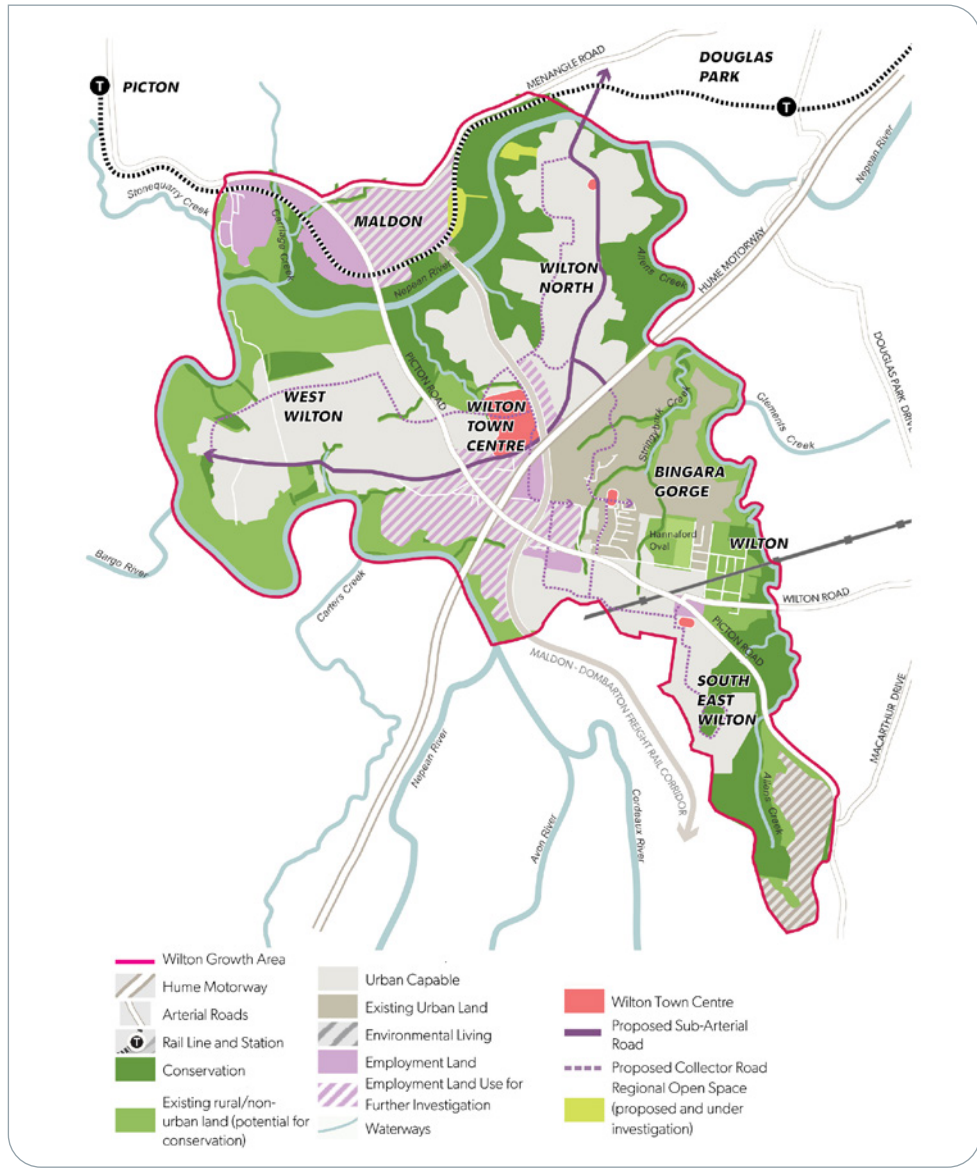
Supporting the Greater Macarthur and Wilton Growth Areas

Significant growth is anticipated across Greater Macarthur and Wilton Growth Areas for housing development and industries, which will generate significant employment opportunities across the region. Approximately 39,000 new dwellings and 20,000 jobs are planned across Greater Macarthur south of Campbelltown, while the Wilton Growth Area is expected to accommodate around 15,000 new

dwellings and 15,000 jobs, when fully developed. A new town centre is also planned for Wilton which will extend across 50,000m² of floor space that will be used for commercial and social infrastructure for the new community.

The Outer Sydney Orbital Stage 2 corridor will help support this anticipated growth and ensure communities can get to where they need to go.

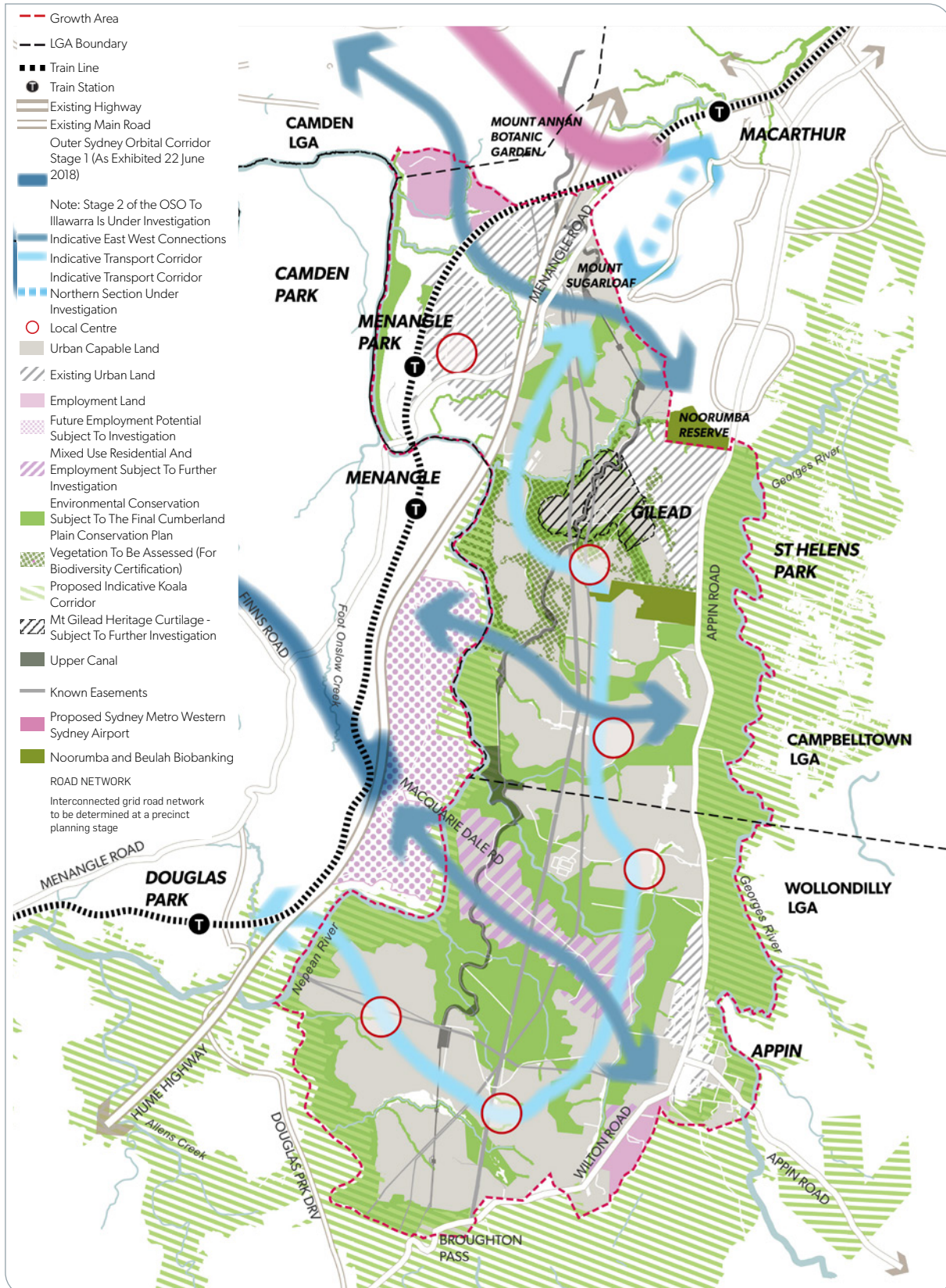
Wilton 2040 - Structure Plan





Transport for NSW is currently planning other projects to support the future Transport network in the Greater Macarthur Growth Area, including Link Road Corridor Study; Spring Farm Parkway Stages 1 and 2; Appin Road upgrade and Appin Road safety improvements. More information is available on our interactive portal at rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/appin-road-improvements

Greater Macarthur 2040 Interim Plan - Structure Plan for Land Release Areas



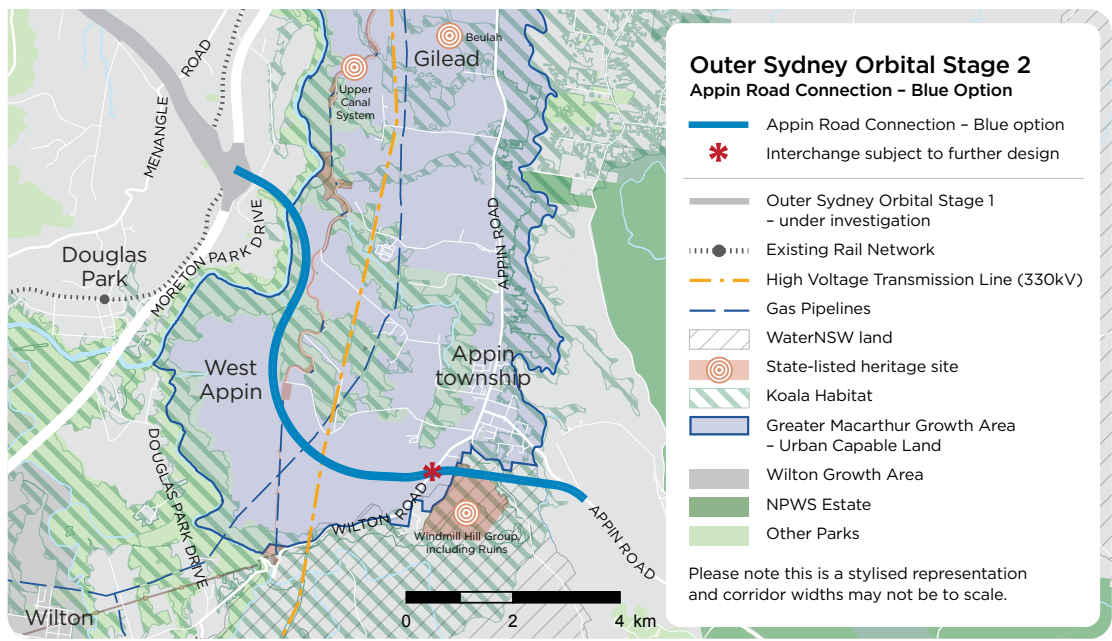
About the shortlisted corridor options between the Hume Motorway and Appin Road:

Blue option

The blue option extends from the Outer Sydney Orbital Stage 1 corridor at the Hume Motorway, crossing the Nepean River, it then curves south following the bush line at West Appin, before passing south of Appin township and connecting with Appin Road.

Key features:

- Avoids Appin township
- Largely avoids native vegetation apart from minor impacts near the Nepean River
- Could serve as an opportunity to protect Elladale Creek koala habitat from human access
- Crosses Nepean River gorge, Elladale Creek, Upper Canal (State heritage) and Windmill Hill Group (State heritage)

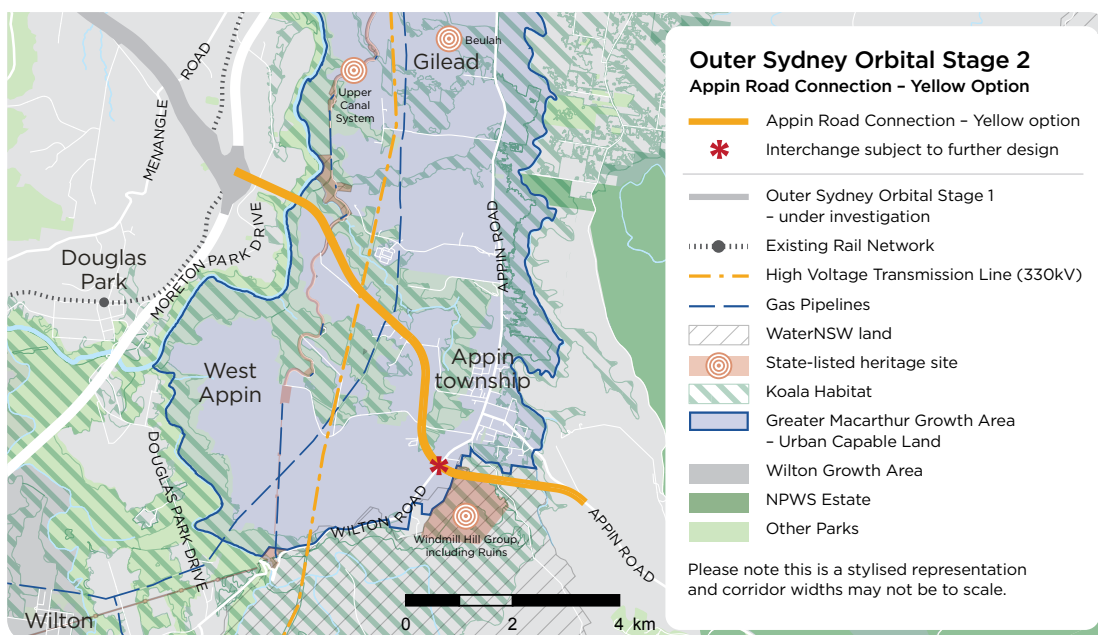


Yellow Option

The yellow option extends from the Outer Sydney Orbital Stage 1 corridor at the Hume Motorway, crosses the Nepean River, then approximately, follows Macquariedale Road. It passes south of Appin and connects to Appin Road, east of the township.

Key features:

- Avoids Appin township
- Reflects the exhibited indicative east-west link in Greater Macarthur 2040
- Largely avoids native vegetation apart from minor impacts near a future bridge crossing of the Nepean River
- Could serve as an opportunity to protect Ousedale Creek koala habitat from human access
- Crosses State Heritage including the Upper Canal and Windmill Hill Group near Wilton Road.





Looking south towards Douglas Park over the Hume Motorway from Menangle Park

Identifying corridor options

The short listed corridor options have been identified following preliminary investigations which includes:

- Existing land uses
- Biodiversity and conservation
- Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage
- Existing landscape and geography including contamination
- Existing bodies of water including floodplains
- Potential noise and vibration
- Transport planning needs, and
- Socio-economic impacts of transport routes.

These investigations have provided an understanding of the area along with the constraints that helped define the locations of the corridor options. Information about the investigation process is provided in the Options Report.

Stakeholders, landowners and community are encouraged to participate in the consultation process, and provide feedback on the shortlisted corridor options between the Hume Motorway and Appin Road.

What is the benefit to identifying a corridor of land between the Hume Motorway and Appin Road?

Transport for NSW is working with other NSW Government agencies and local councils to respond to the housing and employment growth anticipated across Western Sydney, including the Greater Macarthur Growth Area.

As part of this process we are investigating how future transport infrastructure can support growing communities and businesses by providing connections to the Western Sydney Airport, the Aerotropolis and surrounding employment lands. Identifying a corridor will ensure that land is available to deliver the transport infrastructure in the future, when it is needed. Most importantly, identifying the location of a future road corridor will enable good transport connections integrating with land that will be developed for new housing and industries that will generate more jobs in the region.

A future road corridor for the Outer Sydney Orbital Stage 2 will:

- Support urban development across the Wilton, Greater Macarthur Growth Areas and the Illawarra-Shoalhaven region
- Facilitate great places, and provide certainty for investment across the region
- Provide communities with transport connections between the Western Parkland City and the Illawarra-Shoalhaven over the longer term
- Provide access to jobs and other employment opportunities across the Aerotropolis and surrounding industrial lands
- Provide access to the Western Sydney Airport
- Support different transport needs including public transport, walking and cycling options
- Enable freight to move efficiently and safely.



Emerald Hills, Greater Macarthur Growth Area
Credit: Josh Tredinnick/DPIE



Emerald Hills, Greater Macarthur Growth Area
Credit: Josh Tredinnick/DPIE



Images of the Illawarra Escarpment and coastline

Western Sydney and Illawarra-Shoalhaven Links

There are currently two main roads between Western Sydney and the Illawarra-Shoalhaven region: Picton Road, which primarily connects with Mount Ousley Road, and Appin Road, for connections with Bulli Pass. Both routes are not ideal for heavy vehicles with the maximum grade on Mount Ousley Road at 10.9 percent and the maximum grade on Bulli Pass being 14.6 percent. The grade refers to sections of a road that rise or fall through hilly areas. A flat road has a gradient of 0%, and a steep road has a higher gradient number.

The preferred maximum grade for heavy vehicles is 6%.

In the longer term, the Outer Sydney Orbital Stage 2 corridor investigation will consider identifying an additional transport link across the Illawarra Escarpment. This investigation will need to consider the difficulties of the Escarpment which rises sharply in the Wollongong area approximately 400m above sea level, as well as the historic mine workings and the environmental sensitivity of the Escarpment.







Looking south-east over the Hume Motorway and Menangle Road, Menangle Park toward Appin

Why do we need land now for future transport links?

Making sure we have land available to build future transport links is not a new idea. As far back as the 1940s, governments actively secured land for future infrastructure. They had a vision of what Sydney could become. In the 1950s an area from Hurstville to Bankstown, then the city fringe, was preserved as a future corridor. Some 40 years later it became the M5 Motorway.

More recently, the NSW Government has identified lands across Western Sydney to deliver significant infrastructure, in the future, that will support growing population, new communities, new housing development, and industries that will generate more jobs. The Western Sydney Corridors include:

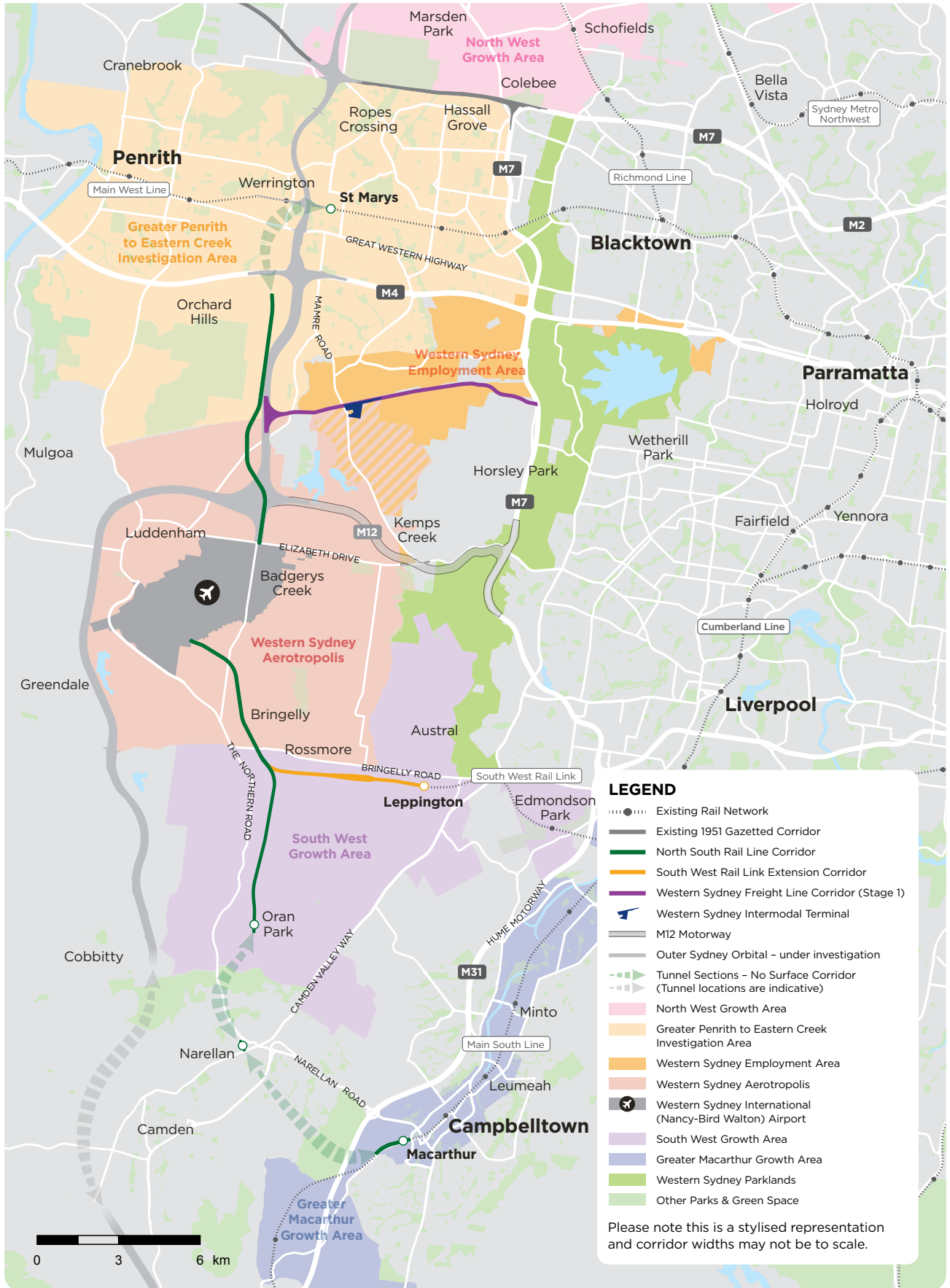
- **The North South Rail Line**
for passenger rail connections
- **South West Rail Link Extension**
for passenger rail connections
- **Western Sydney Freight Line**
for freight rail connections including a new Intermodal Terminal.

More information about the Western Sydney Corridors is available at transport.nsw.gov.au/corridors

In June 2020, Transport for NSW announced it will use the North South Rail Line corridor to deliver the Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport Line between St Marys and the site of the Western Sydney Airport. More information about the Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport is available at sydneymetro.info/westernsydneyairportline

As Greater Sydney grows, the transport network must grow with it to meet the needs of communities and industries. Future transport links will connect people with places and each other. Effective transport planning ensures communities and businesses are even better connected with new employment areas, industries, and cities.

Western Sydney Corridors protected in 2020



Will land be acquired?

There is a lot of work to be done before any land is acquired for a future transport connection. At this stage, we are consulting with stakeholders, landowners and the community on corridor options between the Hume Motorway and Appin Road. Feedback will be used to help identify a recommended corridor for future transport use.

There is no need for Transport for NSW to acquire land until close to the time the transport infrastructure is required,

which may be many years or decades away. In the meantime landowners can continue to live on and use their land.

This corridor investigation does not change or rezone land.

Following extensive consultation a recommended corridor will be confirmed for future transport infrastructure use.

Credit: Josh Tredinnick/DPIE





Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan

The proposed Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan will provide biodiversity offsets for new housing and infrastructure corridors to support the delivery of the Western Parkland City. The Plan covers 200,000 hectares of Western Sydney from Wilton in the south to Windsor and Kurrajong in the north.

The conservation program is designed to offset all impacts on biodiversity by protecting at least three times the area affected by development.

The Plan supports 20,500 hectares of Cumberland Plain Woodland, a critically endangered ecological community that is found only in the Sydney Basin.

The Outer Sydney Orbital Stage 2 corridor investigation has sought to avoid land identified by the Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan as having important conservation values.

More information about Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan is available at planning.nsw.gov.au/cumberlandplainconservationplan

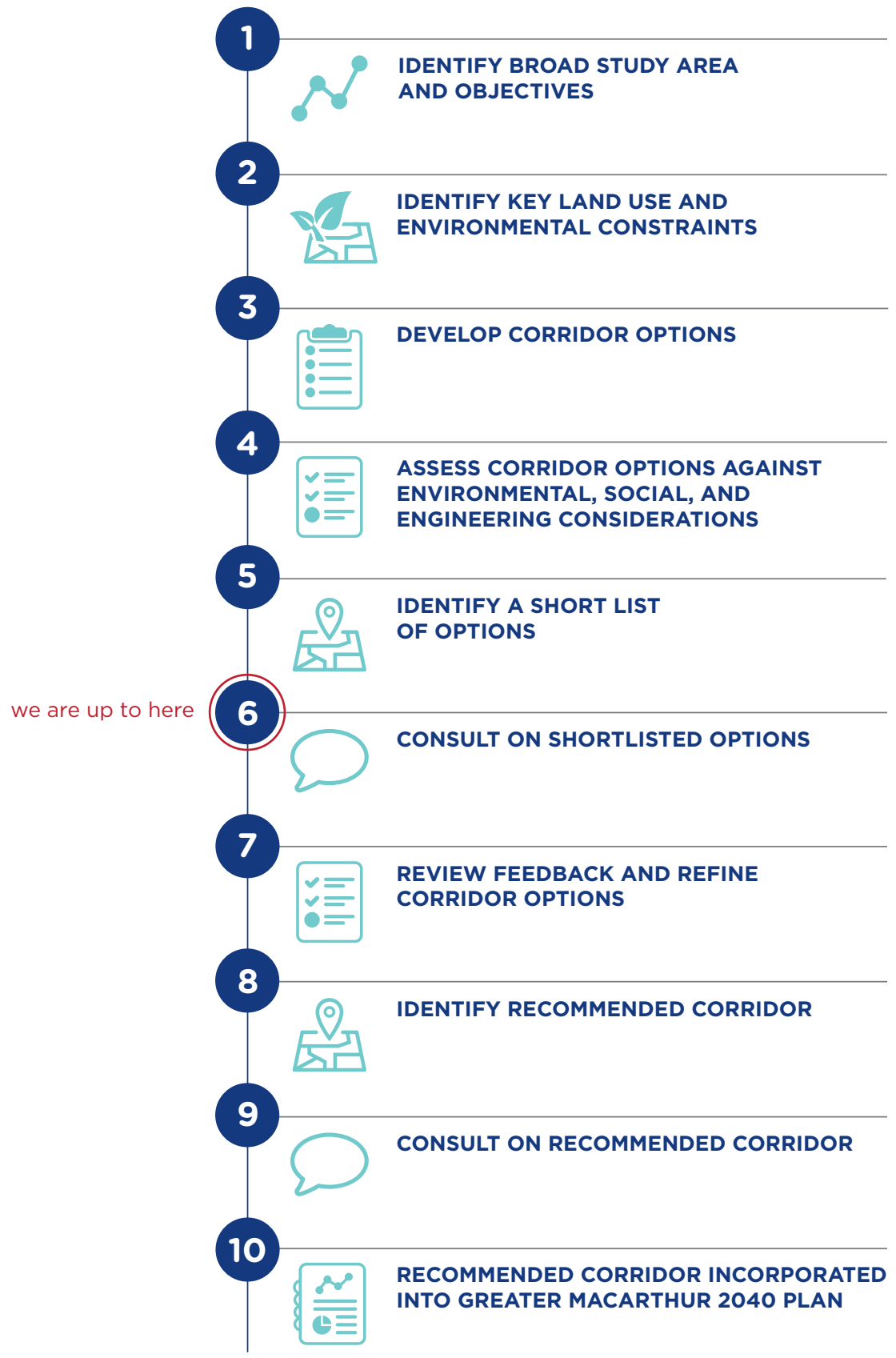
Protecting koalas on the Cumberland Plain

Koalas require large, connected areas of habitat to eat, move and breed. The Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan will protect koala habitat by adding to existing reserves and establishing new public reserves and biodiversity stewardship sites. The Plan will also facilitate koala movement across the landscape by protecting and restoring east-west connectivity. These east-west connects provide high quality habitat along the Georges and Nepean rivers and are important for the long term survival of the koala population.

The Outer Sydney Orbital Stage 2 corridor investigation has sought to avoid land identified by the Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan as being important for koala conservation. The future design of transport infrastructure will also consider ways to reduce impacts on koalas.

More information about Koala Habitat Protection is available at planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/Environment-and-Heritage/Koala-Habitat-Protection-SEPP

Next steps





Provide your feedback on the corridor options by 14 December 2020

Stakeholders, landowners and community can provide feedback on the proposed Outer Sydney Orbital Stage 2 corridor options identified through our preliminary investigations. Feedback together with further technical investigations will be used to identify a suitable recommended corridor for future transport use.

Have your say

- Visit the website for more information transport.nsw.gov.au/corridors
- Use the interactive online map to see the locations of the corridor options and to provide your feedback transport.nsw.gov.au/corridors
- Email corridors@transport.nsw.gov.au
- Write Corridor Investigation Office
Transport for NSW
PO BOX K659
Haymarket NSW 1240
- Call **1800 837 511**



This document contains important information about transport investigations in your area. If you require the services of an interpreter, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450** and ask them to call the Corridor Investigation Office on **1800 837 511**. The interpreter will then assist you with translation.



transport.nsw.gov.au

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