Benefits
The M1 Upgrades will:
• make your trip home safer and more reliable
• provide you with safer access to and from the motorway
• allow for predicted increases in traffic
• make it easier for freight to travel between Sydney and the North Coast.

Background
More than 70,000 light and heavy vehicles travel on the M1 between the Hunter, Central Coast and Sydney each day. The M1 Upgrades will allow for predicted increases in traffic and make it easier to move freight between Sydney and Brisbane. The completed projects will get you home safely and more reliably.

Features
Roads and Maritime Services is working between the Kariong and Somersby interchanges, Tuggerah and Doyalson interchanges and at the Weakleys Drive and John Renshaw Drive intersection. Key features of the M1 Upgrades include:
• widening the motorway between Kariong and Somersby
• improving interchanges at Kariong, Warnervale and Doyalson
• replacing the existing roundabout at Weakleys Drive with traffic lights
• replacing old, cracked pavement on the motorway.
Construction update

Weakleys Drive and John Renshaw Drive intersection

Expected completion date: 2019

Located at the northern end of the motorway, this intersection connects the M1, Weakleys Drive and John Renshaw Drive. It supports movements between the main road corridors of the M1, New England Highway and Pacific Highway as well as connecting local businesses.

Work is under way, with barriers now in place for the safety of workers and motorists. The speed limit will remain at 60km/h during peak travel times.

Interim roundabout arrangements are now in place following the recent removal of traffic islands and placement of new asphalt. The new traffic lights will be installed later in the year.

The upgraded intersection, with additional lanes and traffic lights, will improve travel time reliability and safety.

It has been designed for compatibility with any future road upgrades in the area.

Tuggerah to Doyalson

Expected completion date: 2020

This 12 kilometre section of motorway between Wyong Road and Doyalson Link Road sees the highest volume of traffic of the remaining four lane sections between Sydney and Beresfield.

Work is progressing well on the motorway widening, upgraded Doyalson interchange, widening of the existing Sparks Road bridge and new commuter carpark.

The upgrade will require changed traffic conditions as work continues. We will keep you informed as we move forward with the upgrade.

A reduced speed limit of 80km/h remains in place between Tuggerah and Doyalson until the project is completed, due to narrower lanes through the construction zone.

Karioing to Somersby

Expected completion date: 2020

This eight kilometre section of motorway between the Kariong and Somersby interchanges is used by motorists and heavy vehicles, with more than 50,000 motorists using the Kariong interchange each day.

Barriers have been placed on the motorway and work has started. A speed limit of 80km/h is in place.

The project, which includes widening the motorway and upgrading three of the four Kariong Interchange ramps, will improve traffic flow and safety.
The M1 Upgrades in numbers

- More than 200,000t of recycled and reused concrete
- 330 jobs created
- Nearly 5,000 concrete and steel barriers
- 6,000 concrete slabs.

Building a better M1 Pacific Motorway
Frequently asked questions

Why does it take so long to build the upgrades?

We are carrying out a range of complex works along one of Australia’s busiest roads. This includes improving safety and capacity at four key interchanges, replacing a roundabout with traffic lights, rebuilding over 50 kilometres of existing lane and adding around 35 kilometres of new lanes to the M1.

Each stage of construction has been designed to have the least possible impact on the 70,000 motorists using the motorway each day. Thanks for your patience as we carry out this important work.

Why is the speed limit 80km/h, especially when I can’t see work happening on site?

We have placed safety barriers on the motorway, to establish a safe zone for our workers. The barriers were placed at the same time as new line-marking which has reduced lane widths, so it is not safe for motorists and heavy vehicles to travel at speeds higher than 80km/h.

For your safety, please take your time and be alert through our construction zones, especially if you are driving a heavy vehicle or towing a van or boat.

How much longer will these upgrades add to my trip?

The work has been designed to minimise impacts to the travelling public, but journey times are affected by normal traffic congestion, particularly during peak holiday periods.

For the most up-to-date traffic details, keep an eye on www.livetraffic.com, download the Live Traffic App or call the Transport Management Centre on 132 701.

Please plan your journey and allow extra travel time.

Involving the community and stakeholders

We are working with the community and stakeholders to identify issues and minimise potential impacts of construction activities.

Further information

Contact the project team:

1800 841 778 (24 hours)

M1Upgrades@rms.nsw.gov.au

M1 Pacific Motorway Upgrades
Roads and Maritime Services
Locked Bag 2030
Newcastle NSW 2300

More information is also available at rms.work/M1Upgrades

If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 1800 841 778.