Other road upgrades in Sydney’s northern suburbs

Wakehurst Parkway left-turn slip lane extension
Roads and Maritime is extending the southbound left-turn lane for Wakehurst Parkway into Frenchs Forest Road East to improve traffic flow and safety for all road users. This is currently being constructed and is due to be completed by the end of 2015.

Mona Vale Road East and West upgrade
Roads and Maritime is proposing to upgrade Mona Vale Road between Terrey Hills and Mona Vale to improve safety and traffic efficiency. The upgrade includes:
- Stage 1 – Improvement of Mona Vale Road intersection with Pondersa Parade and Samuel Street, Mona Vale
- Stage 2 – Mona Vale Road East upgrade: Upgrade of 3.2 kilometres of Mona Vale Road from two lanes to four lanes between Manor Road, Ingleside and Foley Street, Mona Vale
- Stage 3 – Mona Vale Road West upgrade: Upgrade of 3.2 kilometres of Mona Vale Road from two lanes to four lanes between McCarrs Creek Road, Terrey Hills and Providence Waters Road, Ingleside.

Roads and Maritime completed Stage 1 earlier this year and consulted on the proposed road upgrades for Mona Vale Road East and West in October 2014. Community feedback on the proposal is being reviewed and will inform further development of the project. For further information please contact the project team on 1300 637 459 or visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/sydney-north/mona-vale-road-index.html.

Northern Beaches Hospital road upgrades
The NSW Government is planning road upgrades around the new Northern Beaches Hospital with work scheduled to be completed in time for the hospital opening. Roads and Maritime is planning and delivering the road upgrades in two stages. Stage 1 would provide essential access to the Northern Beaches Hospital.

Stage 2, which would help increase capacity of the road network and reduce congestion, will be completed by the end of 2015. Roads and Maritime exhibited the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Concept Proposal and Stage 1 in October 2014. Roads and Maritime has since prepared a submissions report and preferred infrastructure report and has submitted the reports to the Department of Planning and Environment. A separate EIS for the proposed Stage 2 upgrade is being prepared and will be placed on public display in mid-2015. For further information please contact the project team on 1300 367 459 or rnswwave@rms.nsw.gov.au or visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/sydney-north/northern-beaches-hospital-index.html.

Community information sessions
Roads and Maritime recognises the importance of involving the community in the development of the Starkey Street Pedestrian Bridge. Roads and Maritime will host two community information sessions.

Translating and Interpreting Service
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Starkey Street Pedestrian Bridge, Forestville
Roads and Maritime is proposing to remove the pedestrian crossing at the traffic lights across Warringah Road at Starkey Street and install a new pedestrian bridge over Warringah Road east of Starkey Street. The proposed Starkey Street Pedestrian Bridge would increase transport efficiency on Warringah Road through Forestville, reduce delays, allow for more effective road-based public transport and improve road safety.

Roads and Maritime has prepared a Review of Environmental Factors to examine the potential impacts of the Starkey Street Pedestrian Bridge proposal and outline measures to reduce and manage the impacts. The Review of Environmental Factors is on display for community and stakeholder comment end of June 2015.

What are the key features?
- Installing a new pedestrian bridge over Warringah Road east of Starkey Street
- Removing the existing pedestrian crossing at the traffic lights on the western side of the intersection of Warringah Road and Starkey Street
- Relocating the existing eastbound bus stop on the northern side of Warringah Road from east of Starkey Street to east of Starkey Street near the proposed pedestrian bridge entry
- Providing new pedestrian crossings to the pedestrian bridge entry and bus stop
- Altering the Starkey Street car park to accommodate the proposed new pedestrian bridge
- Installing new pedestrian fencing in a number of locations
- Relocating utilities
- New landscaping and signage.
What are the benefits?
There is currently a very high demand for the pedestrian crossing at the traffic lights of Warringah Road at Starkey Street due to local buses, shops, community facilities and schools. More than 100 pedestrians per hour use the crossing in the morning peak period. The pedestrian crossing is used by pedestrians crossing is 30 seconds. The frequency and length of time the pedestrian crossing is used causes traffic delays and congestion on Warringah Road during peak periods. The benefits of the proposed pedestrian bridge would include:

- Improving the efficiency of traffic flow along Warringah Road at Starkey, particularly with the westbound traffic in the morning peak and eastbound traffic in the evening peak.
- Reducing traffic delays on Warringah Road at both the morning and evening peaks.
- Supporting improvements to road-based public transport on Warringah Road by improving traffic capacity.
- Improving safety, by separating pedestrians from a busy main road.
- Improving transport access for aligning bus stops with the proposed pedestrian bridge.
- Providing urban design improvements around the bridge.

What would the proposed pedestrian bridge include?
The proposed bridge would use Roads and Maritime’s standard pedestrian bridge design which is a load-bearing structure supported by lift shafts which have a glazed front for security. The lift shafts have been selected because it has a simple and elegant form, and reduces the height of the lift and stairs. The stairlift structure reduces the bridge footprint, capital cost and physical and visual impact. The key features of the proposed pedestrian bridge would also include:

- Life that can accommodate up to 15 passengers, as well as scooters, bicycles and prams.
- A roof over the bridge span to protect users from the elements.
- Safety fencing and lift screens.
- Open ends on the bridge deck to allow district views.
- A set of curved stairs and lift on both sides.
- Realigning the pedestrian paths leading to and around the bridge access points and nearby bus stops.
- Bicycle parking facilities.

Next steps
We will consider all comments in finalising the proposal and design and will continue to liaise with the community throughout the project. Following the display of the Report of Environmental Factors, Roads and Maritime will prepare a community consultation report and respond to the matters the community and stakeholders raise during the display.

Frequently asked questions
Q. What are the main impacts?
The main impacts of the proposed Starkey Street Pedestrian Bridge would include:
- Changes in visual amenity
- Some partial property acquisition to accommodate the bridge
- Reducing the number of car parking spaces in the car park, which services the Forestville Memorial Hall and Senior Citizens Centre.

Q. Where can I get more details on these options?
Roads and Maritime prepared an options report for the Starkey Street Pedestrian Bridge proposal which outlined the four options that were developed and evaluated, and provided information on how the preferred option (Option 4) was chosen. The information is available on the project web page at www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/sydney-north/index.html.

Q. Will you keep the pedestrian crossings across Starkey and Ferguson streets?
Yes. The pedestrian crossings for the intersection would remain across Starkey Street and Ferguson Street, but the proposal would remove the pedestrian crossing leg across Warringah Road on the western side of the intersection.

Q. What will happen to the existing bus shelter on Warringah Road?
The existing bus stop and shelter on the southern side of Warringah Road would be relocated from the western side of the intersection to the eastern side. A new bus stop and shelter with a leaning rail would be constructed and the existing bus shelter would be demolished.

Q. Will the proposed pedestrian bridge cater for cyclists?
Yes. Bicycle parking facilities would be provided on both sides near the bridge landings. Roads and Maritime is still investigating the option to have bicycle facilities accommodated in the bridge. The lifts will also accommodate bicycles.

Roads and Maritime consulted with the community throughout the project. Following the display of the Review of Environmental Factors, Roads and Maritime would landscape all four corners of Warringah Road on the western side of the intersection.

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