Windsor Bridge replacement project

Monthly construction activities - November

Major construction work is continuing on the new Windsor Bridge to help improve traffic flow and provide a safe and reliable crossing over the Hawkesbury River at Windsor.

Work to be carried out in **November** includes:

**Riverbank protection**

Work is continuing at both ends of the new bridge, to protect the riverbanks from future erosion. The protection includes geotextile fabric covered with layers of rock. The banks will be planted with vegetation at a later stage of the project.
We will use long reach excavators and trucks to transport material to and from the work areas. On the southern bank, the rock is being installed between the existing bridge and the wharf. This work will continue through **November 2018 to early 2019.**

**Archaeological work continues**

Roads and Maritime Services is continuing archaeological work along Old Bridge Street. This work is being carried out by specialist independent archaeologists with assistance from heritage conservators. Work during **November** includes continuing to remove and conserve the brick box drains, and monitoring and recording the excavation work in the area below Old Bridge Street.

The archaeological team will continue to record and analyse all heritage finds. Information and reports will be available on our project website. For further information, please refer to the Conservation and Heritage section of the project website at rms.nsw.gov.au/windsorbridge.

**Piling work**

In **November** we will start work in lower Thompson Square, to establish foundation support for the new bridge abutments. During the work a piling rig will create holes that will be filled with concrete.

The work will start with a trial to monitor vibration effects, and assess any impact to the brick barrel drain. If required, we will revise the piling method to lower vibration. The piling trial will be supervised by an archaeologist and a vibration expert.

Due to the historical significance of the brick barrel drain, Roads and Maritime is committed to protecting this heritage item. We have revised the bridge design to protect and preserve the barrel drain in place. Further information on requirements for the piling trial can be found in the *Thompson Square Brick Drain, Windsor, NSW – Heritage Mitigation and Options Report* which is available on the project website.

This work is scheduled to begin from **Monday 12 November.** We will carry out this work during standard work hours, until **February 2019.**

**Utility relocations**

We need to relocate an underground Telstra cable on the southern side of the river to a temporary location. This will allow us to build the bridge abutment in this area. The work will involve small excavators. The cable will be excavated across Old Bridge Street. This work will continue in **November and December.**

In **November** we will continue work to locate and concrete encase an existing wastewater pipe that runs across Thompson Square. This will ensure the pipe, which in the future will be partly underneath the new road, is protected and won’t need to be accessed for future maintenance.

**Casting bed and marine piling**

Work will continue on the bridge casting bed and marine access areas will be built following the clearing work on the northern side of the river. The concrete bridge segments will be cast in the casting bed before being launched across the river. This will involve earthmoving, piling and concrete works.

A temporary jetty will be installed at the northern river bank to service the marine work between the existing bridge and the location of the new bridge. We will use excavators, trucks, piling equipment, concrete pumps, cranes and other supporting equipment. The work will continue through **November and December.**

Marine piling will begin in **November 2018.** The piles will form the foundation of the new bridge over the water. There are four pier locations in the water. We will be working standard hours of between **8am and 6pm Monday to Friday, and between 8am to 4pm on most Saturdays up until mid-2019** to ensure this work is completed efficiently.
Changed access to Thompson Square and Windsor Wharf

We have installed safety fencing around the work area, shown in green in the included map. This will remain in place until the end of the project.

There will be no vehicle access to Windsor Wharf and car parks while work continues. From early November, pedestrian access to the wharf will be via The Terrace. Signs are in place to guide pedestrians.

Specific access arrangements have been made with the Hawkesbury Paddle Wheeler to ensure their customers can reach the wharf.

Important boating information

Due to the construction work, navigation on the Hawkesbury River in this area will be restricted until the end of the project.

Two heavy lift barges will be located downstream of the bridge until the second half of 2019, weather permitting. Some spans of the existing bridge will be closed until the completion of the project.

Vessel operators are advised to exercise caution when navigating near the work and to pay particular attention to the closed spans and navigation markers. This navigation warning remains in place for entire project.

There will be signage at Pitt Town and Governor Phillip Reserve boat ramps. A copy of the full navigation warning is available at www.rms.nsw.gov.au/maritime.

Our work schedule

Work will generally be carried out during standard construction hours between 7am and 6pm, between Monday and Friday, and from 8am to 1pm on Saturdays, with some extended hours on Saturdays from 8am to 4pm.

We will notify the community separately of any required work outside these normal construction hours.

How the work will affect you

There may be some noise and disruption associated with this work including vehicle movements. We will make every effort to minimise noise and disruption to the community during construction.

There may be some temporary traffic changes to ensure the work zone is safe. Please keep to speed limits and follow the direction of traffic controllers and signs. For the latest traffic updates, you can call 132 701, visit livetraffic.com or download the Live Traffic NSW App.

Your feedback

Throughout construction we will provide a monthly update to the community on progress and upcoming work activities. We welcome any feedback about how you would like us to communicate with you.

Contact

If you have any questions about construction, please contact the Windsor Bridge Project Team on 1800 983 657 during business hours or email windsorbridge@georgiou.com.au

For more information on the project, visit rms.nsw.gov.au/windsorbridge. Thank you for your patience during this important work.