Albion Park Rail bypass – preferred option

Roads and Maritime Services is planning a 9.8 kilometre extension of the M1 Princes Motorway between Yallah and Oak Flats to bypass Albion Park Rail.

The bypass will complete the ‘missing link’ for a high standard road between Sydney and Bomaderry. It will provide easy access to Dapto, Albion Park and Oak Flats, have two lanes in each direction, with capacity for additional lanes and be signposted at 100km/h.

We are now seeking community feedback on the preferred design for the Albion Park Rail bypass and will be holding information sessions over the coming weeks (see back page for details).

Feedback is invited until 5pm, Monday 24 November 2014 and will be used to refine the bypass design during the environmental assessment.

Visit rms.nsw.gov.au/apr to view the video and provide feedback

Scan the QR code to view a video on this project

1800 708 727
Flooding

Flooding closes the Illawarra Highway around seven times a year and the Princes Highway three times a year.

The bypass will replace the section of the Illawarra Highway most affected by flooding. This will significantly improve access for bypass traffic during periods of intense rain. The bypass will be built so access is maintained during a one in 20 year flood event as a minimum.

Further studies will be done as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in 2015 to better understand the impacts of flooding.

The bypass services the growth areas of Calderwood, Tullimbar, Tallawarra and West Dapto. The preferred design includes a new southbound motorway entry ramp from Tongarra Road and a northbound exit ramp at the Illawarra Highway. These ramps may not be needed until a later stage. This is influenced by Wollongong and Shellharbour City Councils’ future developments.

Environment

There are two endangered ecological communities (EEC’s) within the bypass route. These are:

- Illawarra lowlands grassy woodlands north and south of Yallah Road and south of Duck Creek, and
- Freshwater wetlands on coastal floodplains around Frazers Creek and north of Macquarie Rivulet.

Croom Reserve is part of the Illawarra lowlands grassy woodlands EEC. Three threatened plant species - the Eastern Flame Pea, Illawarra Greenhood Orchid and Pimelea Curviflora – are also within the reserve. This is one of the last locations where the Illawarra Greenhood Orchid is found.

Croom Reserve is protected through a conservation agreement between Shellharbour City Council and National Parks and Wildlife Services. This is why the bypass has not been shortened through Croom Reserve.

More detailed environmental investigations have now started and will form part of the EIS.
The Albion Park Rail bypass will be shortened through the Croom Regional Sporting Complex. This improves safety by removing a below standard curve and shortens the bypass by 800 metres. The shortening achieves a 29 second time saving for each bypass trip and will save a typical commuter $170 in fuel and vehicle operating costs each year.

Throughout the planning process we have been working closely with Shellharbour City Council and the sporting groups who regularly use the facility. This is continuing.

We will ensure directly impacted sporting facilities are replaced with similar facilities and that clubs can maintain sports competitions while the project is planned and built.

A landscape architect has been engaged to redesign the sporting complex.

A design showing proposed changes to the sporting complex is above.

We expect Junior Rugby League, Netball, Cricket and Junior AFL to be directly impacted. We are discussing these changes with these sporting groups.

The southern access into the complex will be changed. Vehicle and pedestrian access through the complex will also change but will be maintained.

The Shellharbour City Stadium will remain.
You are invited to drop in at any time during an information session to discuss the bypass preferred option with members of the project team.

Saturday 8 November
Albion Park Public School
10am to 2pm
Cnr Hamilton Road and Tongarra Road, Albion Park

Wednesday 12 November
Albion Park Rail Public School
4pm to 8pm
Tongarra Road, Albion Park Rail

Saturday 15 November
Centenary Hall
9am to 1pm
Tongarra Road, Albion Park

Sunday 16 November
Camp Quality Convoy
9am to 3pm
Croom Regional Sporting Complex, Albion Park

Unstaffed displays have been provided at:
Wollongong City Council
Shellharbour City Council
Dapto Library
Albion Park Library
Oak Flats Library

Feedback is invited until 5pm, Monday 24 November 2014.

What happens next?
The preferred option will continue to be refined, taking into consideration the feedback from the community.

An EIS is under preparation. This will have more detailed information about the design features, identification of impacts and their management during construction and operation of the bypass. The EIS is expected to be exhibited in late 2015 when further community feedback will be sought.

Timing of construction is yet to be confirmed.

Have your say
- To find out more or provide feedback visit rms.nsw.gov.au/apr
- AlbionParkRailbypass@rms.nsw.gov.au
- 1800 708 727
- Roads and Maritime Services
  Southern Regional Office
  PO Box 477, Wollongong NSW 2520

Roads and Maritime Services
Privacy: Roads and Maritime Services (“RMS”) is subject to the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (“PPIP Act”) which requires that we comply with the Information Privacy Principles set out in the PPIP Act.

All information in correspondence is collected for the sole purpose of assisting in the assessment of this proposal. The information received, including names and addresses of respondents, may be published in subsequent documents unless a clear indication is given in the correspondence that all or part of that information is not to be published. Otherwise RMS will only disclose your personal information, without your consent, if authorised by the law. Your personal information will be held by Roads and Maritime Services at 90 Crown Street, Wollongong NSW 2500. You have the right to access and correct the information if you believe that it is incorrect.
Wollongong City Council to upgrade Yallah Road.

Illawarra Highway becomes a cul-de-sac.

Southbound exit ramp travels over the motorway to the Illawarra Highway.

Ramps may not be needed until a later stage.

Can connect with a future bypass of Albion Park (Tripoli Way).

Motorway improved and shortened through Croom Regional Sporting Complex.

Croome Road travels over the motorway.

New entrance to Croom Regional Sporting Complex.

New local road separates local and through traffic. This replaces the East West Link.

Woollybutt Drive and Durgadin Drive become a cul-de-sac.

Cormack Avenue becoming a cul-de-sac and building the second roundabout are part of the future plan of the Tallawarra development.

Free flowing connections for motorists on and off the motorway.

Can connect with a future bypass of Albion Park (Tripoli Way).

Motorway overpasses Tongarra Road.

Ramps may not be needed until a later stage.

New motorway ramp.

New local road.

Existing local road / motorway.

Traffic direction.

Railway line.