

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Road closures: Free Settlers Drive and Rutherford Avenue, Kellyville

#### **Which roads are being closed and for how long?**

From the 6 April 2021 Rutherford Avenue will be closed permanently and Free Settlers Drive will be closed temporarily, scheduled to be reopened in July 2022.

#### **Do these roads need to close and why?**

Yes, the closure of Free Settlers Drive and Rutherford Avenue are necessary due to the nature of the work in that area. Work includes: stormwater drainage installation, utility relocation and installation, earthworks and pavement construction. These works cannot be relocated. The closure of these roads will reduce the amount of staging and therefore, the overall time required to complete the new signalised intersection at Free Settlers Drive and Memorial Avenue.

We appreciate this closure will cause some inconvenience and disruption to local residents and motorists. The project team a detailed impact assessment around the two road closures through previous consultation with The Hills Shire Council, bus companies, TfNSW and emergency services, before the closures and the timing of the closures were decided.

#### **What else was involved in making the decision to close these roads?**

Transport for NSW partnered with representatives from Daracon, the construction partner and the Senior Management team at Gracewood to discuss the road closures. This was followed by two information sessions with the residents of the centre. Team members from both Transport and Daracon attended all of these sessions. These meetings were organised prior to the release of any general notification to the community and to allow discussion on broader aspects of the Memorial Avenue Upgrade plans.

Ongoing consultation on appropriate detour routes was completed with local council, local bus companies and emergency services to ascertain the safest and most efficient route alternatives given the existing street geography. These stakeholder groups had an opportunity to provide feedback and suggestions and provided no objections to the proposal.

#### **What measures will be installed around the road closures to make them safer?**

A traffic management plan has been prepared for the closures and will be implemented, audited prior to and following the closures. When the Memorial Avenue upgrade is complete, there will be a new set of traffic lights at the intersection of Arnold Ave and Free Settlers Drive.

#### **When will the new set of traffic lights be installed and finished at Arnold Ave and Free Settlers Drive?**

The new traffic signals should be fully operational in its ultimate state by late 2023.

## **What detours are available while the roads are closed?**

The detour route identified by the project team and visible on the community notification along Hector Court, is only one detour route available to residents of the aged care facility. There are a number of alternative routes available to motorists. There is access via Fairway Dr with a left turn onto Windsor at any time and a right turn onto Windsor during off-peak times. Another option during the closure is to travel via Hector Court involving; a left turn onto Memorial Avenue, right into McCausland Place to get back to Memorial Avenue and through to Windsor Rd.

## **Is the Hector Court detour safe without a new set of traffic lights?**

Yes, traffic conditions should not change significantly from the current situation at the Hector Court intersection at Memorial Avenue.

Based on a detour route audit that was conducted by the project team, the current levels of traffic through Hector Court onto Memorial Ave do not support the need for installing traffic signals and do not meet the criteria for further adjustments. Adding traffic lights to the current intersection is expected to cause queueing down Memorial Avenue and McCausland Place.

We do not expect traffic volumes through Hector Court to increase significantly as there are alternative routes which may provide better options for some residents. Please be assured, traffic monitoring will be on-going to ensure adjustments can be made if and when they are required (i.e. Additional signage where appropriate and maintenance).

## **In an emergency, will emergency vehicles be allowed through the closed streets and how will they navigate the new roads?**

Emergency services will use the detour routes. Notifications have been distributed to advise them of the changes. INS LifeGuard has been notified about how to access the aged care residents in an emergency.

## **What noise walls or noise measures will be put up to protect residents along Memorial during and after construction?**

There are no plans to install noise walls along Memorial Avenue, however there will be operational noise treatments available to properties identified as being eligible. Those residents who are not eligible for noise treatment through the Memorial Avenue Upgrade are able to apply to the Noise Abatement Program (NAP) for an individual assessment by Transport for NSW.

For more information visit the NAP website: <https://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/about/environment/reducing-noise/noise-abatement-program.html>

## **Will there be new parking restrictions on the surrounding roads during/after the road closures?**

There are no plans to make any adjustments to the existing parking arrangements on surrounding roads however, the performance of the detour route will be monitored and any additional measures will be done in consultation with Hills Shire Council and directly impacted residents.

## **What happens now?**

The project team will continue to monitor the impacts of the road closures and keep an open dialogue with the community. There will be ongoing community engagement and notifications distributed to the local area for upcoming work and changes to the roads. Anyone interested in receiving notifications should contact the project team and request to be added to the notifications database at:

[memorial.avenue@daracon.com.au](mailto:memorial.avenue@daracon.com.au)