

# Sydney Harbour Bridge

## Community update Access Lifts

October 2017



Credit: Destination NSW

The NSW Government is investing in projects to modernise and improve access to the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

The Sydney Harbour Bridge connects our city from north to south and back again and provides an important link for thousands of commuters and sightseers every day.

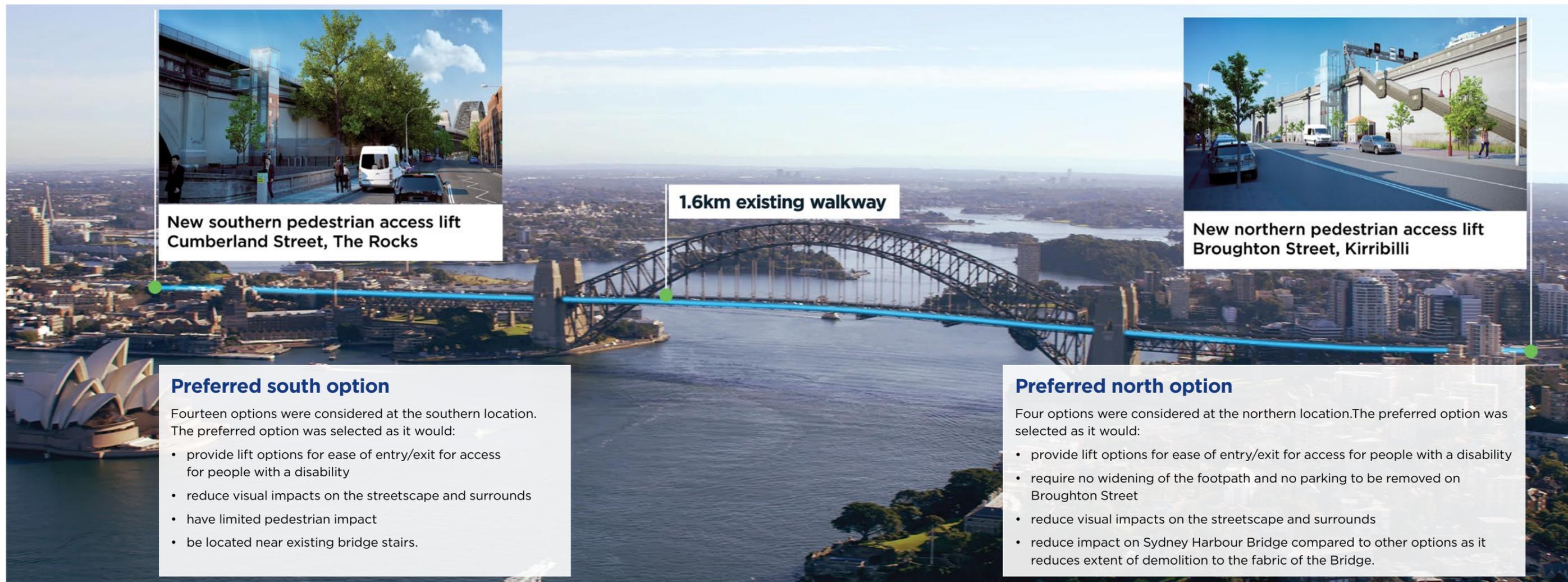
Roads and Maritime Services is planning to install lifts at Kirribilli and The Rocks to ensure everybody can enjoy the experience of being on one of Australia's most recognisable landmarks.

Improving access to the Sydney Harbour Bridge is an important part of modernising and maintaining our iconic structure. In addition to the more than 160,000 vehicles and 200 trains that travel across the bridge every day, thousands of pedestrians use the existing 1.6 kilometre footpath to cross Sydney Harbour.

Step free access to the footpath does not exist which prevents people with impaired mobility (including people with a disability, wheelchair users, people with prams and the elderly) from easily accessing the pedestrian footpath.

Roads and Maritime proposes to build step-free access to the Sydney Harbour Bridge, from street level to the pedestrian footpath on the bridge, by building lifts near the stairs at each end.

**A Review of Environmental Factors has been prepared to examine the potential impact of the proposal and outline measures to reduce and manage these impacts. The Review of Environmental Factors and concept design for the proposal are on display for community and stakeholder feedback until 12 November 2017.**



**New southern pedestrian access lift  
Cumberland Street, The Rocks**



**New northern pedestrian access lift  
Broughton Street, Kirribilli**

**1.6km existing walkway**

### Preferred south option

Fourteen options were considered at the southern location. The preferred option was selected as it would:

- provide lift options for ease of entry/exit for access for people with a disability
- reduce visual impacts on the streetscape and surrounds
- have limited pedestrian impact
- be located near existing bridge stairs.

### Preferred north option

Four options were considered at the northern location. The preferred option was selected as it would:

- provide lift options for ease of entry/exit for access for people with a disability
- require no widening of the footpath and no parking to be removed on Broughton Street
- reduce visual impacts on the streetscape and surrounds
- reduce impact on Sydney Harbour Bridge compared to other options as it reduces extent of demolition to the fabric of the Bridge.

## Key features and benefits

The main benefits of the proposal include:

- providing safe access to the Sydney Harbour Bridge for people with impaired mobility
- providing an opportunity for people with disability to participate in a recreational and cultural activity
- preserving the heritage aspects of the Sydney Harbour Bridge while improving access.

The key features of the proposal include:

- installing a lift at the north end of the Sydney Harbour Bridge on Broughton Street, Kirribilli
- installing a lift at the south end of the Sydney Harbour Bridge on Cumberland Street, The Rocks
- refurbishing the immediate area near the lifts for access to the lift shafts
- installing a bridge link from the exit of the lifts to the existing Sydney Harbour Bridge pedestrian footpath.

## Preferred options

A number of options for north and south lift locations were developed and assessed against the proposal's objectives and existing site constraints.

The objectives of the options study were to:

- find a location that maximises accessibility
- provide for disabled access
- maximise visual integration with the bridge structure and the surrounding environment
- maximise integration with existing uses
- minimise heritage impacts on the Sydney Harbour Bridge and surrounding environment
- maximise safety for users
- minimise maintenance requirements
- provide a cost-effective solution while minimising construction impacts.

The preferred options for the north and south lift locations were selected following extensive consultation with key stakeholders.

More information about the options selection process is available in section 2.4 of the Review of Environmental Factors

## Accessibility

The key objective for this proposal is ensuring that people with impaired mobility (including people with a disability, wheelchair users, people with prams and the elderly) can enjoy the experience of being on the Sydney Harbour Bridge. We have consulted with key stakeholders including the Physical Disability Council of NSW, in developing the proposal, to ensure it represents the best possible accessibility solution in the location.

Section 3.2 of the Review of Environmental Factors outlines a number of design guidelines and standards that were used in preparing the concept design.

## Heritage

The Sydney Harbour Bridge is a highly significant heritage item, listed on several heritage registers including the National Heritage List. Roads and Maritime is planning this proposal to minimise any heritage impacts.

The Review of Environmental Factors includes a detailed heritage assessment report, produced independently by expert heritage specialists. The report concluded the access lifts proposal, due to its relatively small scale compared to the bridge as a whole, as well as the location of the proposed work away from areas of exceptional heritage significance, would not negatively impact the national heritage values of the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

## Across the bridge

Roads and Maritime is committed to ensuring that the bridge caters for the changing needs of all users. In addition to the lifts project, we are also upgrading the northern and southern toll plaza precincts, completing maintenance work, and delivering a number of other initiatives to continue to improve safety and access to the bridge.

## Have your say

Roads and Maritime is seeking community and stakeholder feedback on the concept design and Review of Environmental Factors for the proposed Sydney Harbour Bridge lifts installation by **12 November 2017**.

Written comments should be sent to:

**Email:** [sydneyharbourbridgeprojects@rms.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sydneyharbourbridgeprojects@rms.nsw.gov.au)

**Mail:** Sydney Harbour Bridge Lifts Project  
Roads and Maritime Services  
PO Box 973,  
Parramatta CBD NSW 2124

## Community information drop in sessions

We will host a community information session at each end of the bridge, where you can view the Review of Environmental Factors and speak to members of the project team.

A formal presentation will not be provided, so please feel free to drop in at any time:

### Tuesday 31 October 2017

6pm – 8pm  
Bradfield Park Community Centre  
Alfred St, Milsons Point NSW 2061

### Wednesday 1 November 2017

6pm – 8pm  
Harry Jensen Centre,  
17 Argyle Street, Millers Point

## Display locations

The Review of Environmental Factors is available to view in person at:

**North Sydney Council**  
200 Miller Street, North Sydney

**City of Sydney Council**  
Town Hall House, 456 Kent Street, Sydney

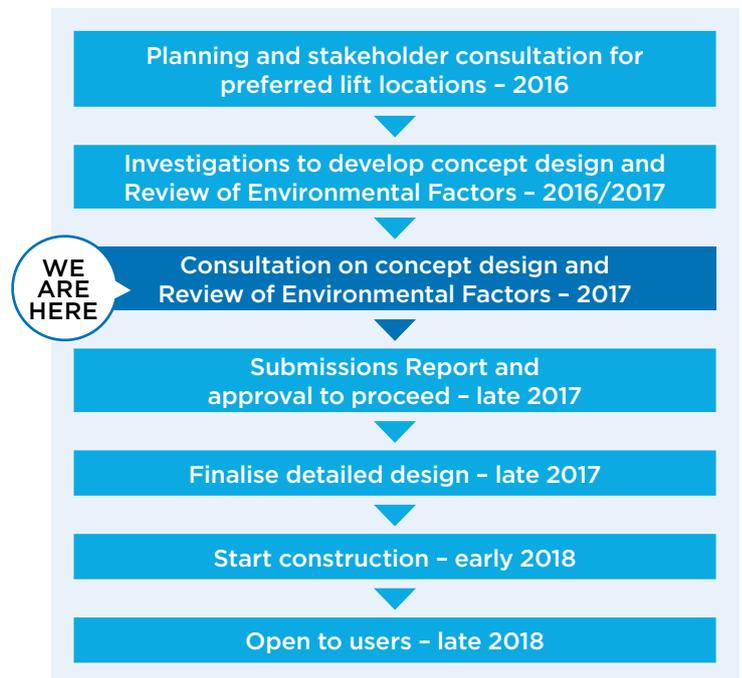
You can also view or download it online at [rms.nsw.gov.au/sydneyharbourbridge](http://rms.nsw.gov.au/sydneyharbourbridge).



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 703 457.

## What happens next?

Roads and Maritime will prepare a submissions report outlining the feedback received and our responses. We will consider all comments in finalising the proposal and continue to keep the community informed as the project progresses.



## Contact us

For more information or to provide feedback, please contact the project team:

 1800 581 595

 [sydneyharbourbridgeprojects@rms.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sydneyharbourbridgeprojects@rms.nsw.gov.au)

 [www.rms.nsw.gov.au/sydneyharbourbridge](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/sydneyharbourbridge)

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