

For Immediate Release

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M2 Upgrade Project Contractual Close and Environmental Approval

The NSW Minister for Roads, David Borger, today announced the \$550 million Hills M2 Upgrade project has reached contractual close and preparatory construction work will commence over coming weeks.

The acting NSW Minister for Planning has also provided environmental approval for the project under Part 3A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

“The Hills M2 Upgrade is a major boost for transport in Sydney’s north-west and will deliver better travel time reliability for motorists, improve safety of motorway operations and provide a boost for public transport users in Sydney’s North-West,” said a project spokesman.

“The project is expected to deliver over \$1.2 billion in economic benefits to the State’s economy.”

The \$550 million Hills M2 Upgrade will involve widening the busiest sections of the motorway, including:

- the establishment of a permanent third lane eastbound between Windsor Rd and Lane Cove Road and westbound from Lane Cove Rd to Pennant Hills Rd.
- New access between the eastern sections of the motorway and the Macquarie Park employment and education hub.
- New west facing ramps at Windsor Road better linking people with new economic opportunities.

“Construction will be undertaken by Transurban’s partners on the project, Leighton Contractors, and will commence in December this year and will take 2 years to complete,” said the project spokesman.

“Construction will commence following the establishment of a temporary alternative cycle route and some site compounds.

“This significant investment in transport in Sydney’s north-west will benefit over 100,000 motorists and 17,000 bus commuters who currently use the M2 each week day.

“The project is critical to support the rapid economic and population growth of Sydney north-west which include 140,000 new homes and 100,000 new jobs over the next 25 years.

A further 300,000 people are expected to establish their homes in north-west Sydney over the coming two decades – the equivalent of a new city the size of Canberra.

“Once constructed, the M2 Upgrade will allow the additional demand forecast for use of the motorway in 2016 of 17,300 daily trips to be accommodated by the motorway.

“Without the M2 Upgrade project, these trips would either need to be accommodated by public roads or through increased congestion on the existing motorway.”

The M2 Upgrade will create around 800 direct jobs during construction and a further 2,400 in direct jobs during the life of the project.

The project will be funded through a one-off 7.7 percent increase in the toll for the motorway, which will only apply following construction and a four year extension of the concession deed from 2042 to 2046. The four new ramps will also be tolled, adding new tolling points to the motorway.

For more information, motorists and the community should visit www.hillsm2upgrade.com.au or contact 1800 196 266 or via enquiries@hillsm2upgrade.com.au.

Media Contact – Peter Colacino (02) 9254 4926 or 0407 193 463

M2 Upgrade project

A team consisting of The Roads and Traffic Authority of NSW,
The Hills Motorway Limited and Hills Motorway Management Limited (as trustee of the Hills Motorway Trust)
M2 Upgrade project Locked Bag 2215 North Ryde BC NSW 1670