

M1 Pacific Motorway extension to Raymond Terrace

Project update – Start of construction

November 2023



Australian Government



The Australian Government and NSW Government are funding the 15-kilometre M1 Pacific Motorway extension to Raymond Terrace project. The extension will boost the regional economy and improve connectivity, road transport efficiency and safety for local and interstate motorists.



Work underway

Major construction work is now underway for the northern and southern sections of the project with the John Holland-Gamuda Joint Venture building the 10-kilometre southern section from Black Hill to Tomago and Seymour Whyte Constructions building the five-kilometre northern section which bypasses Heatherbrae.

The project is expected to open to traffic in mid-2028, weather permitting.

Progress update

In the past few months, we have:

- established our site compounds at Heatherbrae and Tarro
- carried out geotechnical and utility investigations
- started vegetation and tree clearing
- installed erosion and sediment controls
- flagged project boundaries, including environmentally sensitive areas
- installed site access gates and project signage
- started utility relocation works for water, sewerage, electrical and communications
- begun importing material for fill to raise existing ground levels where needed.

Upcoming and out of hours work

Work activities over the next three months will include:

- continuation of vegetation and tree clearing and mulching
- installation of guardrails, barriers and traffic signage
- construction of access tracks
- construction of temporary traffic arrangements
- remediation work at the former sand minerals processing plant at Tomago
- delivery of imported materials
- bulk earthworks
- delivery of oversized equipment and plant as required
- utility relocations including water, sewer, electrical and communications.

Some of this work will need to be done outside of standard construction hours to reduce impacts on the road network and ensure the safety of motorists and our workforce. We will provide advance notice to all stakeholders who will be directly impacted by this work.

Preparations for Tomago interchange underway

Significant clearing work has been carried out at the former sand minerals processing plant at Tomago. This site will be home to the new Tomago interchange.

Major earthworks, including the remediation of material, has been carried out to establish the right foundations for construction to progress. All work is being completed in accordance with the Minister's Conditions of Approval, Environmental Protection Licence and our Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) approved by the Department of Planning and Environment.



Site preparations underway at Tomago next to the Pacific Highway

Our work hours

We will work up to six days a week across the northern and southern sections of the project. Our standard work hours will be between **7am and 6pm from Monday to Friday and between 8am and 5pm on Saturdays**. There will be no work on public holidays. We will keep the community informed of work needed to be completed outside of these hours.

Fast facts during August – October 2023



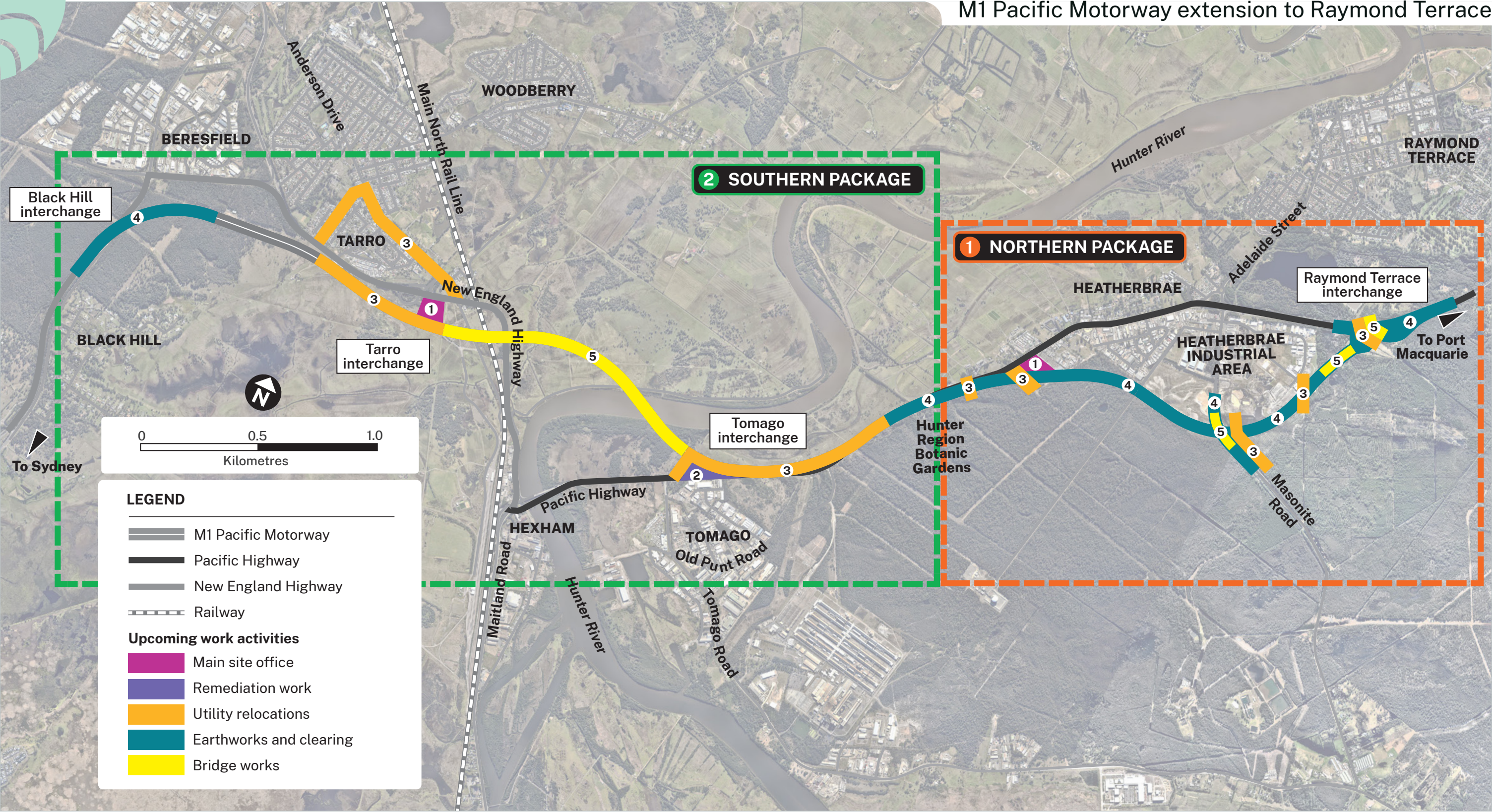
40,000
tonnes of earthworks
completed



345
hours worked



10%
utilities work
complete



Stay up to date on the M1 Pacific Motorway extension to Raymond Terrace project


We know building a major project in a large regional location like the Hunter will come with some disruption to day to day life. We understand you may have questions about the upcoming work, and we have a team of experienced people here to help. We will keep you informed throughout every step of the project.




Create roughly **2700** direct and indirect jobs



Bypass up to **5** traffic lights



2.6km viaduct over Hunter River and floodplain



Remove **25,000** vehicles per day from key congestion points



Saving motorists up to **9 minutes** during peak time



improve safety on the existing motorway and highway

Conserving habitat for native species

Before clearing work started on the northern section of the project, our environment team worked with our ecologists to oversee the carving of tree replacement hollows. This will provide shelter for native fauna including birds, gliders, possums and bats that may be displaced during construction and operation of the project.



Conserving habitat for native species

Supporting the Port Stephens Koala Hospital

Our clearing work has also provided the project with an opportunity to salvage scarce natural resources in the form of koala feed and habitat. As a project, we've been able to provide loads of fresh red gums and swamp mahogany to the Port Stephens Koala Hospital. As clearing work progresses, our ecologists will continue to identify suitable feed for the Koala Hospital.



Supporting the Port Stephens Koala Hospital

Donating to the Hunter Region Botanic Gardens

We are proud to have salvaged approximately 30 *Diuris arenaria* (Sand Doubletail) orchids from the project corridor and donated these to the Hunter Region Botanic Gardens.

These orchids flower for only two weeks of the year and are difficult to identify when not flowering, so the project team acted quickly to retrieve and secure these plants.

The Hunter Region Botanic Gardens will now aim to establish the Sand Doubletail orchids within their gardens and attempt to propagate the flowers from collected seeds. This presents a valuable learning opportunity to botanists as little is known about the orchids.

We will continue to monitor the project corridor for any further conservation opportunities as the project progresses.

Design and landscape plan consultation

As part of our design process, consultation was carried with the community during September and October for the Design and Landscape Plan (DLP) for each contract section. This included the 10-kilometre southern section from Black Hill to Tomago and the five-kilometre northern section from Tomago to Raymond Terrace. The DLPs outlined the design and landscape objectives of the M1 Pacific Motorway extension to Raymond Terrace.

Feedback is currently being assessed and being responded to. Final DLPs will be developed and published, along with a report on how we have responded to the submissions we received. We thank those people who attended our drop-in and on-line information sessions and for the feedback provided.

Hexham Street widening: What work are we doing?

Major construction work is underway for the upgrade of the section of Maitland Road known as Hexham Straight, between the Newcastle Inner City Bypass and Hexham Bridge. The project is expected to be open to traffic in 2026. If you would like to know more about this project or ask questions about the Hexham Straight Widening project or would like to join the email distribution list, visit nswroads.work/Hexham.

Community engagement



2004-2007

Initial planning and investigations



2008

Community consultation on the the proposed upgrade



2010

Progress report advising of key changes following consultation



2015

Community consultation on the the revised concept design



2016

Community consultation on design changes



2020

Develop concept design and environmental assessment



2021

Environmental assessment EIS exhibition



2022

Respond to submissions



2023

Planning approval



2023

Early work in preparation for major construction



We are here

Late 2023

Major construction work



2028

Open to traffic

Ongoing community engagement



Community survey

We are asking for community feedback on our approach to keeping you informed and involved on our project. You can have your say on how we communicate with you by visiting the project portal to review a summary of our Communication Management Plan and provide your comments.

We have also included a brief survey to evaluate how we are doing. You can complete the survey online at nswroads.work/m12rtportal or scan the QR code below. For any other feedback regarding how we communicate with you, we encourage you to email us directly or contact us by using the details on the back page of this project update.

Our survey closes on Friday 22 December 2023.



Festive season and holiday shutdown

We will break to spend time with our friends and families during the festive season from Friday 22 December 2023 and return on Monday 8 January 2024. Have a safe and happy holiday season.

Contact us



Project Infoline

1800 094 895 (24 hours)



m12rt@transport.nsw.gov.au



nswroads.work/m12rt



Customer feedback

Transport for NSW, Locked Bag 2030
Newcastle, NSW 2300



Visit the online portal at

nswroads.work//m12rtportal



Interpreter service

For languages other than English call **131 450**
Arabic • Greek • Hindi • Mandarin • Vietnamese

طلب خدمة الترجمة الشفهية للغات غير الإنجليزية اتصل
بالرقم **131 450**

Για υπηρεσίες διερμηνείας σε άλλες γλώσσες εκτός από
τα Αγγλικά καλέστε το **131 450**

अंग्रेज़ी के अतिरिक्त अन्य भाषाओं के लिए दुभाषिया सेवा
131 450 पर कॉल करें

获取英语以外的其他语言口译协助服务可以致电**131 450**

Để có dịch vụ thông ngôn cho các ngôn ngữ khác
tiếng Anh, gọi số **131 450**



For the latest traffic updates:

Call 132 701, visit live.traffic.com or
download the app Live Traffic NSW