

Green light for new M5 East



Work set to start in 1999

In August 1998 the State Government awarded the tender to build the M5 East Freeway to the Boulderstone Hornibrook Bilfinger+Berger Joint Venture.

Following earlier extensive community consultations a number of important improvements were made to the original proposal. You will find details on the map in this brochure.

The M5 East will be a four lane divided carriageway linking the M5 at Beverly Hills to General Homes Drive at Sydney Airport. There will be two tunnels. A 4 kilometre tunnel between Bexley Road and Marsh Street and a 500 metre tunnel under the Cooks River.

In addition the M5 will be widened from two to four lanes between Fairford Road and King Georges Road. That makes a total of 13.5 kilometres of new, four lane, divided carriageway.

Extra ramps will be added at Fairford Road and River Road to improve access.

Toll free through traffic

The Government re-affirmed that there would be no toll on the M5 East. This will encourage through traffic to use the M5 East.

The M5 East will be a boost for the economy and jobs. During the construction phase alone, the M5 East will create 2000 jobs. By improving freight links and reducing transport costs it will help create many more jobs throughout Sydney.

The new M5 East Freeway will be open in mid 2002.

Enquiries during construction

A 24 hour M5 East hotline has been set up.

To seek information or express a concern please phone 1800 815 948.

Big benefits for local residents and motorists

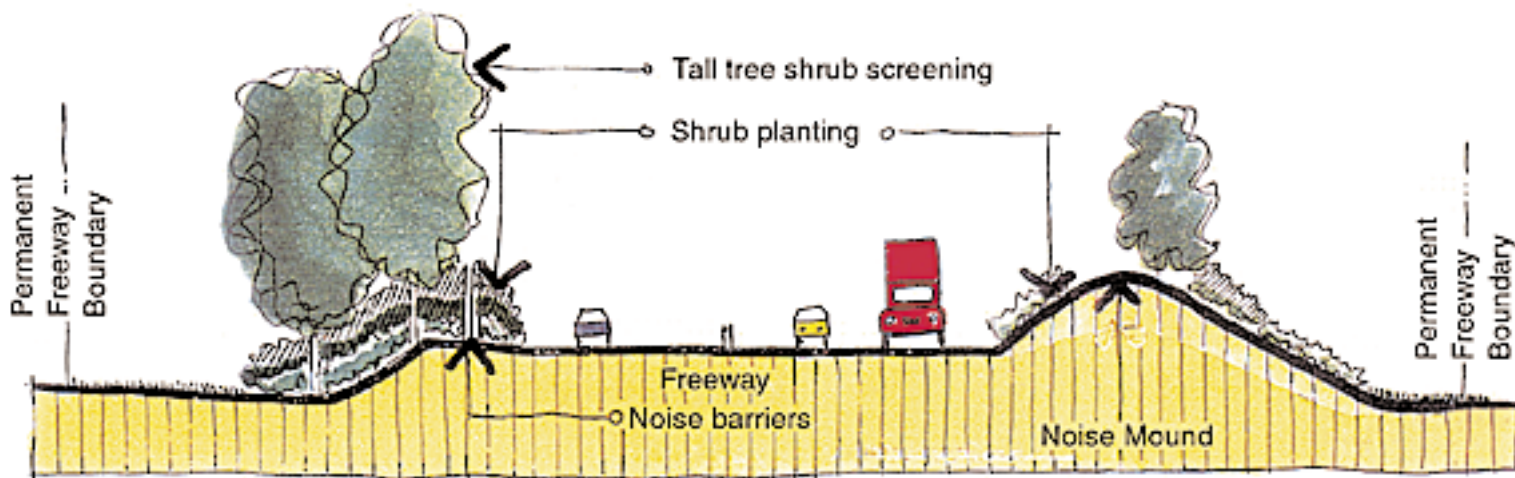
For local residents the M5 East will mean:

- Up to 40% less traffic on local residential streets.
- Dramatic reductions in heavy truck traffic on Bay Street, Harrow Road and Stoney Creek Road plus around Bexley, Rockdale and Brighton-le-Sands shopping centres.

- Less traffic noise and better air quality in local streets.
- Safer streets.

For local motorists the M5 East will mean:

- Significantly less traffic congestion.
- Quicker trips on Canterbury Road, Stoney Creek Road and Forest Road.
- Traffic reductions in Moorefields Road and Bexley Road.



A typical M5 East cross section showing trees and noise mounds and barriers

Protecting the local environment

The M5 East received planning approval subject to the most stringent controls ever placed on a road project in NSW. These controls will ensure the local environment is protected.

Monitoring air quality

There will be comprehensive monitoring of local air quality to standards stricter than those currently set by the Environment Protection Authority.

In addition there will be:

- Dedicated air quality monitoring stations in Turrella and Undercliffe.
- \$500,000 spent improving air quality in the region each year for five years after operation commences.
- Consideration given to adding the latest exhaust treatment measures to the tunnel ventilation if this new technology becomes viable.

Putting environment plans in place

Environmental Management Plans will be progressively prepared. These will set out safeguards and mitigation measures for:

- Stormwater, groundwater and water quality including flooding issues affecting Wolli Creek Valley and Cooks River.
- Architectural surveys of all buildings and structures within 50 metres of the freeway.
- Background noise and vibration surveys before work begins.

Your questions answered

Q: Will the tunnel affect people's homes?

A: No. The tunnel will be deep underground. During the operation of the tunnel there will be no noise and no vibrations. You will be able to build or renovate just as before.

Q: Will the ventilation outlet be landscaped?

A: Yes. The single outlet is in an industrial area and it will be screened by trees and landscaping.

Q: Will emissions from the outlet be monitored?

A: Yes. Emissions will have to meet the tough World Health Organisation's standards.

Q: Will it be easy to cross the M5 East?

A: Yes. There will be five, 10 metre wide, pedestrian and bicycle underpasses at Beverly Grove Park, Glamis Street, Karingal Street, Arinya Street and Lundy Street plus crossings at King Georges, Cooloongatta, Kingsgrove and Bexley Roads.



Secure future for Wolli Creek

The decision to build the M5 East has guaranteed that Wolli Creek will be bush and parkland for generations to come. With the road reservation removed, Wolli Creek will be preserved as a parkland for the local community to use and enjoy.

Expanding wetlands

Wetlands, remnant native vegetation and wildlife such as the Green and Golden Bell Frog will be protected through the:

- Establishment of additional frog habitat at Marsh Street.
- Creation of a compensatory wetland management plan for Eve Street wetlands.



The Marsh and Eve Streets Wetlands

Guaranteeing the value of your property

The State Government has established a Property Value Guarantee.

The Roads and Traffic Authority will purchase any eligible home at the current market price as if the M5 East Freeway did not exist, and provide relocation expenses. To be eligible your home must be within 100 metres of the tunnel portals or located over the tunnel.

This guarantee will continue until 12 months after the M5 East is open to traffic.

For more information about the Property Value Guarantee phone 9831 0976.

Improved facilities for pedestrians and cyclists

There will be a new, shared pedestrian and cycle path along both sides of the M5 East between King Georges Road and Bexley Road.



For more information



If you would like more information call in at the RTA M5 East Freeway Information Centre, 270 Bexley Road, Earlwood.

The Centre is open Monday to Friday 10am-4pm.

You can phone the Visitors Information Centre on 1800 815 948.

What happens next

November 1998

- Detailed design begins
- Environmental management plans developed
- Community meetings
- Phone hotline set up
- Preliminary site works commence

December 1998

- Approvals to commence construction

February 1999

Construction begins:

- At tunnel portals
- Between King Georges and Bexley Roads

July 1999

Construction begins:

- Marsh Street to General Holmes Drive

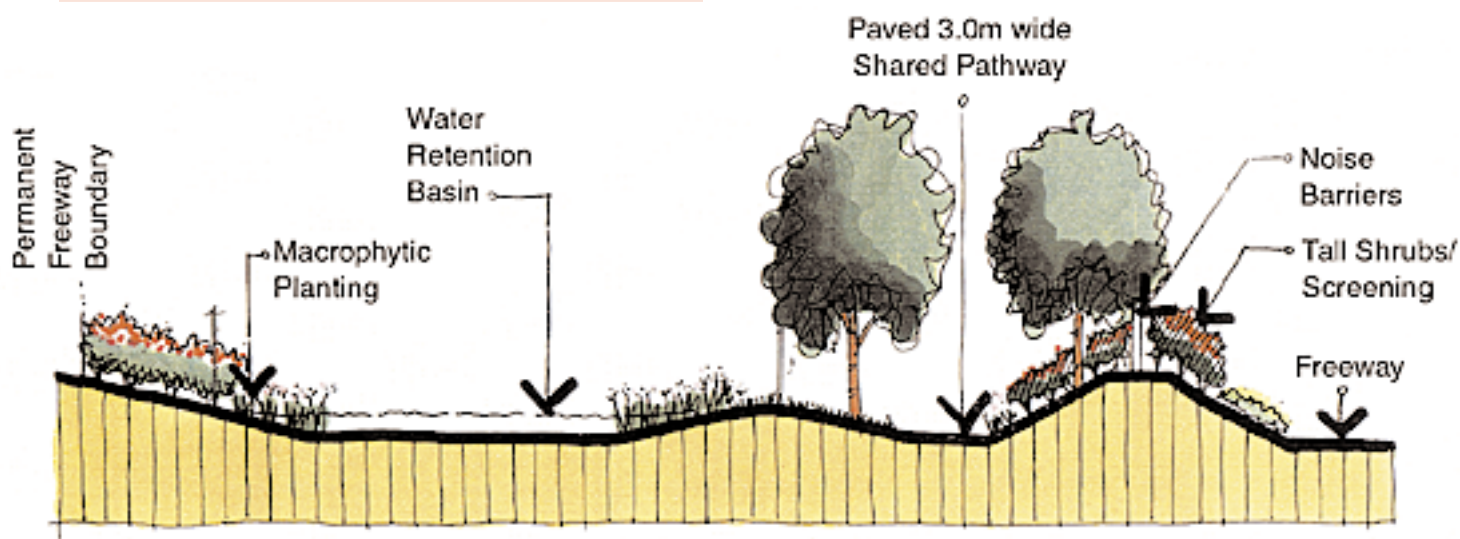
Mid 2002

- Construction work complete

Liaising with the local community

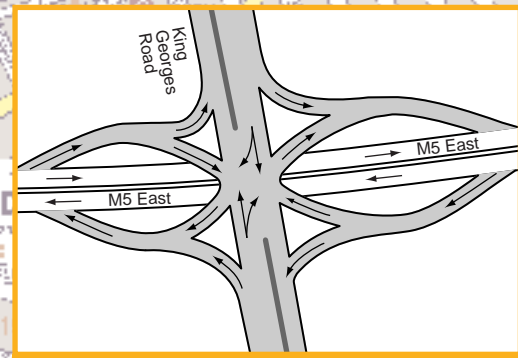
One of the conditions for approval was the setting up of local Community Liaison Groups to discuss design issues and ways to minimise any impact on the local community.

To ensure the success of these groups the RTA appointed Valerie Eaton as Community Liaison Manager. You can contact Valerie on 1800 815 948.



Water retention basins will help protect local creeks

New, improved M5 East



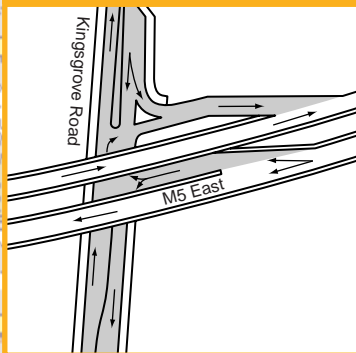
M5 East under and full interchange at King Georges Road.

Existing M5 widened from 2 to 4 lanes.

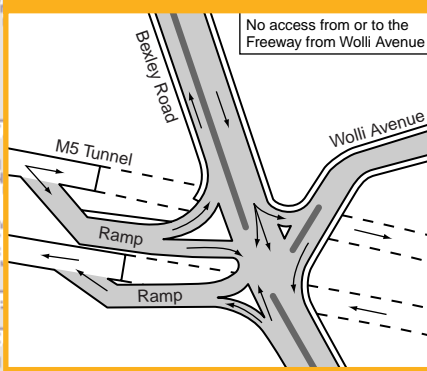
M5 East under Cooalongatta Road.

Five wide pedestrian and bicycle underpasses.

East facing ramps at Kingsgrove Road.



Interchange at Bexley Road.



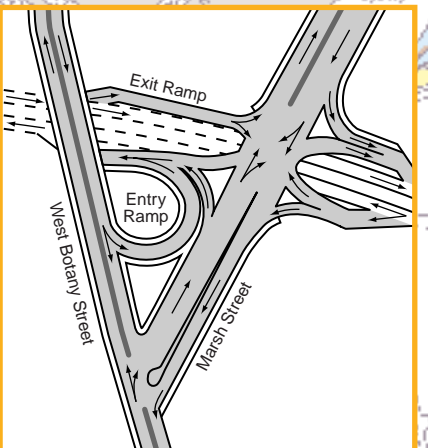
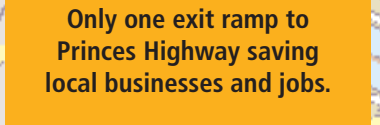
Possible air intake.

Possible air intake.

Possible air intake.

Additional frog habitat at Marsh Street Wetlands.

Possible air intake.



Interchange at Marsh Street.

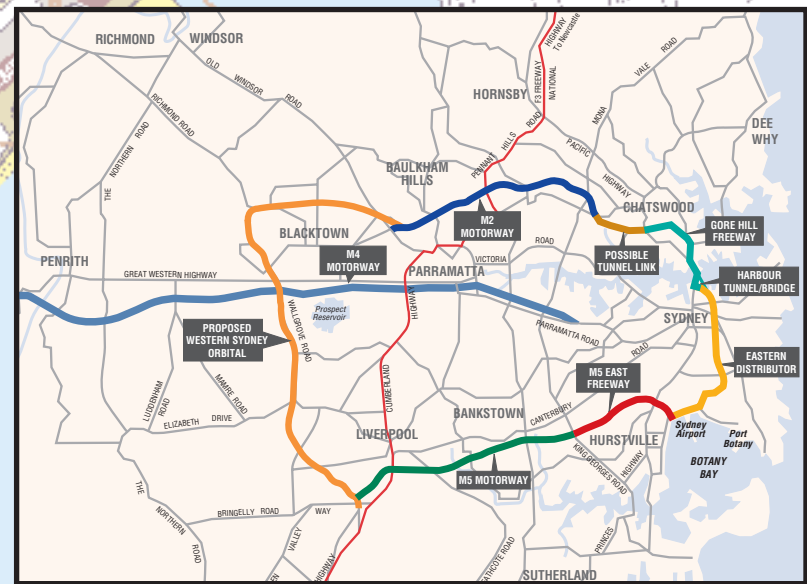
A tunnel under the Cooks River to avoid any interference with Sydney Airport flights.

One ventilation outlet not three. No ventilation outlets in residential areas. A single ventilation outlet in the Turrella industrial area.

Wollie Creek to be permanent parkland. The Government has lifted the road reservation through Wollie Creek. Wollie Creek will become permanent bush and parkland.

LEGEND

- M5 East on surface
- M5 East in tunnel
- Air intake/Vent outlet
- Ventilation tunnel
- Pedestrian/Cycleway



The M5 East is the latest link in the growing Sydney Orbital road network.