

Appendix A

Project update newsletter

Richmond Line Duplication (Quakers Hill to Vineyard)

PROJECT

UPDATE

Public exhibition of the Environmental Assessment for the Richmond Line Duplication

This newsletter has been prepared by Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation (TIDC) to inform you about the public exhibition of the Environmental Assessment for the Richmond Line Duplication. This newsletter contains information about the approval process, upcoming community information sessions and how you can have your say.

What is the Richmond Line Duplication Project?

The Richmond Line Duplication forms part of the NSW Government's Rail Clearways Program, designed to improve capacity and reliability on CityRail's suburban rail network.

The project will improve commuter services and comfort, and meet the expected increase in demand for rail services as a result of predicted growth in Sydney's North West Growth Centre.

The Richmond Line Duplication comprises of:

- the construction of approximately 10 kilometres of new track (and associated overhead wiring) between Quakers Hill and Vineyard
- a new station, car park, and bus interchange at Schofields, located approximately 800 metres south-east of the existing Schofields Station
- an upgrade of Riverstone Station, including easy access facilities including two lifts, a covered footbridge at the southern end of the station and platform resurfacing
- a new electrical substation near the new Schofields Station
- a new station, car park and bus interchange at Vineyard, located approximately 250 metres south-east of the existing Vineyard Station

- replacement of existing pedestrian level crossings at Quakers Hill and Schofields with new footbridges with ramps
- reconstruction of the Westminster Street overbridge to accommodate two traffic lanes and two pedestrian footways

When the new stations become operational the current Schofields and Vineyard Stations will be decommissioned.

The Richmond Line Duplication Project will:

- increase service frequency for existing and future residents
- address increased demand for rail and transport services as a result of development in the North West Growth Centre
- improve accessibility at stations through easy access services such as lifts and ramps
- provide for car parking, bus interchange and kiss-and-ride facilities at the new Schofields and Vineyard Stations
- improve the ability of operations to recover during disruptions
- improve capacity, service reliability and reduce bottlenecks on the Richmond Branch Line
- provide capacity to increase peak hour train services
- reduce station congestion
- reduce delays on other rail lines on the CityRail network.

Indicative artist impression of the new Schofields Station, subject to detailed design



For more project information, please call our infoline on 1800 684 490 or visit www.tidc.nsw.gov.au

Project delivery

Stage one

Stage one works will deliver an additional track between Quakers Hill and the new Schofields Station and involve associated track, signal and station works. Construction of Stage one is expected to commence in 2009 with completion expected in 2011.

Stage two

Stage two will deliver the duplication of the track between the new Schofields Station and Vineyard, including an upgraded Riverstone Station, a new Vineyard Station, and associated track and signal works. Stage two has been deferred to align with growth in the North West Growth Centre.

The Environmental Assessment for the project seeks approval for both stages of the duplication between Quakers Hill and Vineyard.

What is an Environmental Assessment?

TIDC has engaged Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB) to prepare an Environmental Assessment to satisfy the requirements of Part 3A of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

The Environmental Assessment includes:

- background information, including the need for the project, its strategic context and the alternatives considered
- a description of the concept design
- assessment and investigations of any potential key environmental impacts
- recommended measures proposed to minimise and manage potential environmental impacts.

Key issues addressed in the Environmental Assessment include:

- land use and transport issues, including access to stations
- potential impacts
- benefits of the project
- noise and vibration impacts during construction and operation
- cultural heritage
- flora and fauna
- hydrology, including flood management.

TIDC will continue to work with Blacktown City Council, the NSW Department of Planning (the authority responsible for the supply of land and the coordinated provision of infrastructure projects), property owners, businesses and residents to deliver the best possible outcomes for the project and minimise impacts on the environment and the community.

How has previous feedback been used?

TIDC recognises the importance of addressing environmental, social, engineering and cost factors to deliver the best value for the people of NSW and to serve the local community.

Communication and engagement with stakeholders has taken place during the following three phases of the project:

- initial concept development (2006 to early 2007)
- preparation of the Project Application and Preliminary Environmental Assessment Report (between June 2007 and February 2008)
- preparation of the Environmental Assessment (between February 2008 and March 2009).

Community and stakeholder issues identified through consultation are presented in the Environmental Assessment.

A full list of the issues raised by stakeholders and where each issue is addressed in the Environmental Assessment can be found in Appendix C of the Environmental Assessment – Volume 1 Main Report.

What happens next?

The Environmental Assessment is on public exhibition from Wednesday 29 April 2009 to Monday 1 June 2009 and written submissions are invited during this time.

The Environmental Assessment exhibition process allows for community and stakeholder feedback which will be considered and may result in modifications and improvements to the project.

TIDC will consider all written submissions received and prepare a report addressing issues raised and outlining any proposed changes to the project.

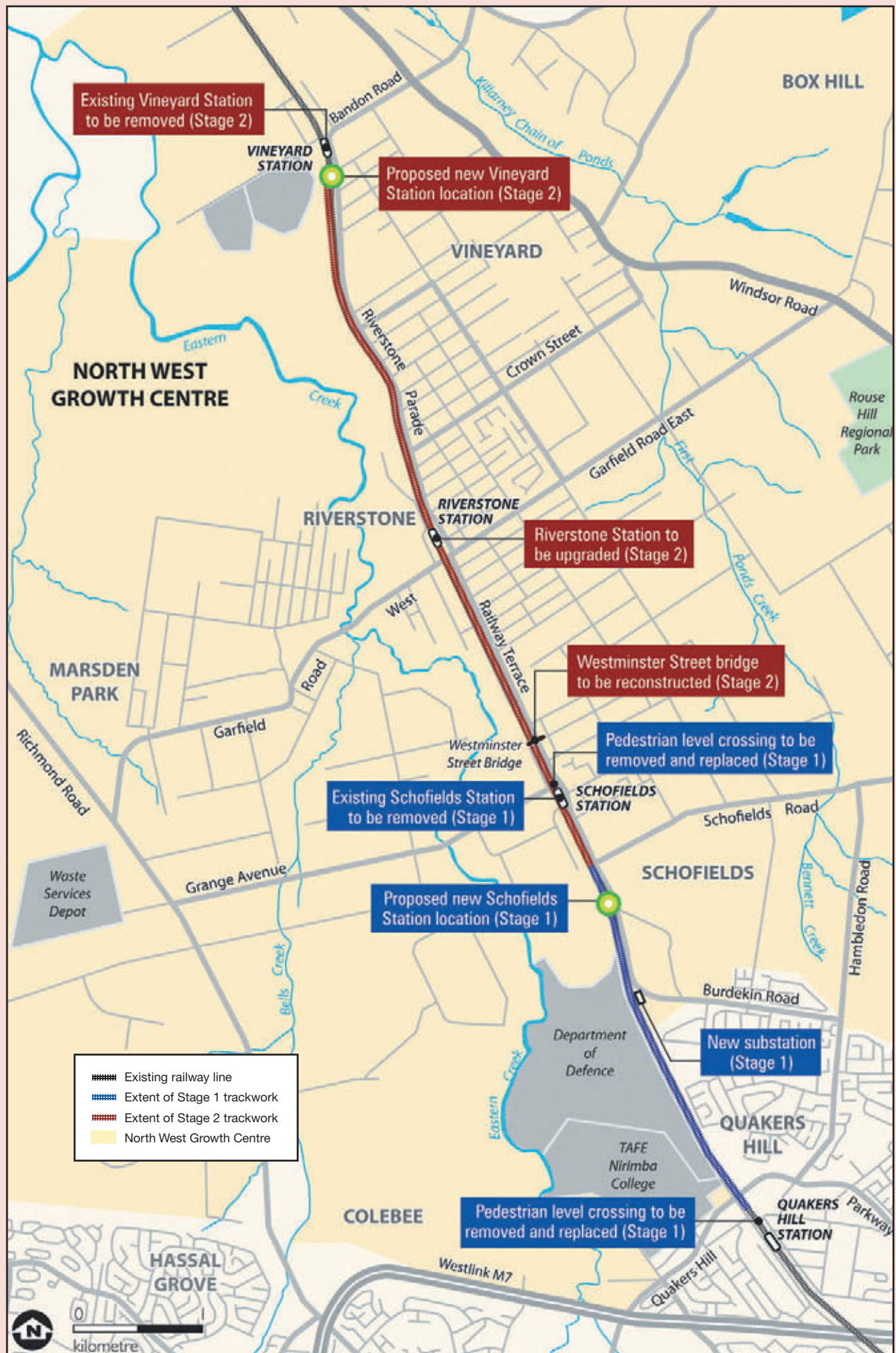
Following examination of the Environmental Assessment and the report addressing submissions received, the Director-General of the Department of Planning will provide an Assessment Report to The Minister for Planning, who will then make a decision on the project and, if approved, will set Conditions of Approval.

Should the Richmond Line Duplication works be approved, the local community and relevant agencies will continue to be engaged during the preparation of the detailed design and throughout construction.

Planning for the future of North West Sydney

The NSW Government, through agencies including TIDC, RailCorp, Ministry of Transport, NSW Department of Planning, and Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA), is working to plan for future growth in North West Sydney through initiatives such as the Richmond Line Duplication project and urban development in areas such as Riverstone Precinct, Alex Avenue Precinct and Riverstone West Precinct. These precincts are to the north of Quakers Hill, either side of the Richmond Branch Line.

Key features of the project



New Schofields Station (Stage one)

Facilities include:

- a commuter car park providing approximately 230 spaces on both the eastern and western sides of the station
- bus interchange, taxi zone and kiss-and-ride facilities
- easy access facilities including lifts
- an island platform
- a footbridge providing access to the station and access across the tracks.



*Indicative artist's impression of the new Schofields Station (facing north-west)**

Upgrade to Riverstone Station (Stage two)

Facilities include:

- an upgrade of platforms 1 and 2
- a new covered footbridge providing access to the station and across the tracks
- easy access facilities including lifts.



*Indicative artist's impression of the Riverstone Station upgrade (facing south-west)**

New Vineyard Station (Stage two)

Facilities include:

- an island and side platform
- a new car park with approximately 220 spaces on the eastern side of Riverstone Parade
- a bus interchange, taxi zone and kiss-and-ride facilities on the western side of Riverstone Parade
- a footbridge providing access between Riverstone Parade and the platforms
- easy access facilities including lifts.



*Indicative artist's impression of the new Vineyard Station (facing south)**

New pedestrian footbridges

New pedestrian footbridges will be constructed at Quakers Hill and Schofields to replace the existing pedestrian level crossings that would be removed as part of this project.

The footbridges would be accessible via ramps and have been proposed to improve pedestrian safety following the increase in train numbers once the new line is operational.

** all images are indicative only and subject to detailed design*



*Indicative artist's impression of the new Schofields pedestrian footbridge**

Public exhibition of the Environmental Assessment (EA)

From Wednesday 29 April 2009 to Monday 1 June 2009 the Environmental Assessment is available to be viewed at the following locations:

- **Blacktown City Council** – 62 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown, Monday to Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm
- **Blacktown Library** – Cnr Flushcombe Road and Alpha Street, Blacktown, Monday to Friday 9:30am – 7:45pm, Saturday 9:30am – 4:00pm, Sunday 12pm – 4pm
- **Hawkesbury City Council** – 366 George Street, Windsor Monday to Friday 8:30am – 5:00pm
- **Hawkesbury Central Library** – 300 George Street, Windsor Monday to Friday 9am – 7pm, Saturday 9am – 1pm, Sunday 2pm – 5pm
- **Richmond Branch Library** – Cnr West Market & March Street, Richmond, Monday to Friday – 9:30am – 6pm, Saturday 9am – 1pm
- **NSW Department of Planning** – 22-33 Bridge Street, Sydney, Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm.
- **The Nature Conservation Council of NSW** – Level 2, 301 Kent Street, Sydney, Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm
- **Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation** – Level 5, Tower A, Zenith Centre, 821 Pacific Highway, Chatswood, Monday to Friday 8:30am – 5:30pm

The Environmental Assessment is also available on the TIDC website at www.tidc.nsw.gov.au. A DVD copy of the Environmental Assessment is available upon request.

Community Information Sessions

You are invited to attend a Community Information Session where you will be able to find out more about the project, talk to the project team and provide your feedback. Specialists from the project team will be available to talk to you about your ideas, suggestions or concerns at the following Community Information Sessions:

- Date:** Thursday, 7 May 2009, 7pm – 9pm
Venue: Schofields Community Centre, 65 Railway Terrace, Schofields
- Date:** Saturday, 23 May 2009, 9am – noon
Venue: Riverstone Senior Citizens Hall, Park Street, Riverstone

You may visit the Community Information Sessions at any time during these hours.

Existing railway line at Schofields that will be duplicated as part of the project

Submissions

Written submissions on the Richmond Line Duplication Project are invited during the public exhibition period.

Written submissions on the Environmental Assessment and/or the project can be made to the NSW Department of Planning by anyone with an interest in the project. Submissions should be sent to the NSW Department of Planning by the closing date and should be addressed to:

Quakers Hill to Vineyard Duplication Environmental Assessment
Director, Major Infrastructure Assessments
NSW Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

All submissions must be received by **Monday 1 June 2009**.

A report will be prepared in response to all written submissions received which will be made publicly available. Structuring your submission to include sub-headings, dot points, or numbering of issues will help ensure all your issues are addressed.

Submissions received by NSW Department of Planning are regarded as public documents and any information contained in them can be published in subsequent assessment documents. NSW Department of Planning may send copies of the submissions it receives on the proposal to the proponent and/or other interested parties. If the information is not to be distributed, this should be clearly stated in your submission.

Where can I get further information?

For further information regarding the project, please call TIDC's Project Infoline on **1800 648 490**, email mail@tidc.nsw.gov.au, or visit the website at www.tidc.nsw.gov.au.

This update is an overview only and does not form part of the Environmental Assessment. Readers should refer to the Environmental Assessment for Quakers Hill to Vineyard for comprehensive information.





This document contains important information about rail projects in your area. If you require the services of an interpreter, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call the Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation (TIDC) on (02) 9200 0200. The Interpreter will then assist you with translation.

Maltese

Dan id-dokument fih informazzjoni importanti dwar proġetti tal-linji tal-ferrovija fl-inhaww tiegħek. Jekk ikollok bżonn is-servizzi ta' interpretu jekk jogħġbok ikkuntattja lit-Translating and Interpreting Service fuq 131 450 u itlobhom biex iċemplu lit-Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation (TIDC) fuq (02) 9200 0200. L-interpretu mbagħad jgħinek bit-traduzzjoni.

Hindi

इस सूचना-पत्र में आपके क्षेत्र में रेल संबंधी परियोजनाओं के बारे में जानकारी दी गई है। यदि आपको दुभाषिए की सेवाओं की आवश्यकता है तो कृपया अनुवाद व दुभाषिया सेवा (TIS) को 131 450 पर फ़ोन करें व उनसे कहें की वह यातायात इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर विकास कारपोरेशन (Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation, TIDC) को (02) 9200 0200 पर फ़ोन करें। इसके बाद दुभाषिया आपके लिए अनुवाद करने में मदद करेगा/गी।

Chinese

這份文件包含有關你所在地區的鐵路工程的重要信息。如果您需要傳譯員服務，請撥打 131450，同翻譯和傳譯服務部聯係，要求他們撥打交通基礎設施發展公司(TIDC)的電話，號碼是(02)92000200。然後傳譯員會幫助你進行翻譯。

Italian

Il presente documento contiene importanti informazioni concernenti progetti ferroviari previsti nella tua zona. Se necessiti dell'assistenza di un interprete, chiama il Translating and Interpreting Service al 131 450 e chiedi loro di telefonare al Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation (TIDC) allo (02) 9200 0200. L'interprete provvederà a tradurre per te le informazioni così ottenute.

Croatian

Ovaj dokument sadrži važne informacije o projektima željeznice na vašem području. Ako trebate usluge tumača, molimo nazovite Službu prevoditelja i tumača na 131 450 i zamolite ih da nazovu Udruženje za razvoj prometne infrastrukture (Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation – TIDC) na (02) 9200 0200. Tumač će vam pružiti pomoć u prevodenju.

Arabic

تحتوي هذه الوثيقة على معلومات مهمة عن مشاريع السكك الحديدية في منطقتك. إذا كنت بحاجة إلى خدمات مترجم، يُرجى الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة الخطية والشفهية على الرقم 131 450 واطلب منهم الاتصال بمؤسسة تطوير البنى التحتية للنقل والمعروفة بـ (TIDC) على الرقم (02) 9200 0200. عندها، يتولى المترجم مساعدتك في ترجمة ما تريد قوله.

Filipino

Ang dokumentong ito ay naglalaman ng mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa mga prohekto ng riles sa inyong lugar. Kung kinakailangan ninyo ng serbisyo ng isang tagapagsaling-wika (interpreter) tawagan po ang Translating and Interpreting Service sa 131 450 at makisuyo sa kanilang tawagan ang Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation (TIDC) sa (02) 9200 0200. Ang interpreter ang siyang tutulong sa inyo na umintindi sa pag-uusapan.

German

Dieses Dokument enthält wichtige Informationen zu Schienenprojekten in Ihrer Gegend. Wenn Sie Dolmetscherdienste benötigen, wenden Sie sich bitte unter der Rufnummer 131 450 an den *Translation and Interpreting Service* und bitten Sie diesen Dienst, die Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation (TIDC) unter (02) 9200 0200 anzurufen. Während des Gesprächs wird Sie dann ein/e Dolmetscher/in unterstützen.

Tamil

உங்களது பகுதியில் இரயில் பாதைத் திட்டங்கள் குறித்த முக்கியமான தகவல்களை இந்த ஆவணம் அடக்கியுள்ளது. உரைபெயர்ப்பாளர் ஒருவரது சேவை உங்களுக்குத் தேவைப்பின் தயை செய்து மொழிபெயர்ப்பு மற்றும் உரைபெயர்ப்பு சேவையுடன் 131 450 என்ற எண் மூலம் தொடர்பு கொண்டு போக்குவரத்து வசதி அபிவிருத்தி நிறுவனத்தினை (Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation – TIDC) (02) 9200 0200 என்ற எண் மூலம் அழைக்கும்படிக் கேளுங்கள். உரைபெயர்ப்பாளர் ஒருவர் பின்பு உங்களது உரையாடலை மொழி பெயர்க்க உதவுவார்.

Polish

Niniejszy dokument zawiera ważne informacje dotyczące projektów kolei w Państwa okolicy. Jeżeli potrzebujecie Państwo pomocy tłumacza, należy zadzwonić na numer 131 450 (*Translating and Interpreting Service - Usługa Tłumaczy*) i poprosić ich o skontaktowanie się z *Transport Infrastructure Development Corporation* (TIDC) pod numerem (02) 9200 0200. Od tej chwili tłumacz ustny będzie Państwu pomagał.



Transport Infrastructure
Development Corporation

For more project information, please call our infoline on 1800 684 490 or visit www.tidc.nsw.gov.au