





# 4.0 Portals

### 4.2 Principles

The guiding principles in the development of designs for these elements are to:

- Ensure that design excellence is an identifying hallmark of the driving experience;
- Create a safe, welcoming, memorable and well designed portal experience;
- Provide an integrated approach across all visible elements;
- Ensure that the dive structures and portals reinforce the objectives of linear identity; and
- Design the portals and associated landscape and structure to be a modern urban expressway, featuring state of the art technology and safety.

### 4.3 Strategies

Strategies to ensure the successful application of the guiding principles are to:

- Provide cohesive, seamless, modern, simple and robust design themes for portals and dive structures;
- Provide cladding systems for portals and dive structures which achieve durability:
- Integrate lighting, emergency services, barriers, traffic management systems and other visual elements into the overall design;
- Implement new safety techniques into the urban and landscape design, blending with a brief visual experience at the tunnel approaches; and
- Maximise landscape opportunities around portals and dive structures.

The portal design has been kept deliberately simple and unobtrusive to avoid adding clutter to the urban environment or the complex road geometry necessary to facilitate their operation. Elements such as wayfinding signage and tolling gantries are located adjacent to portals and dive structures, further necessitating their understated design.



M1-M2-5000-DR-UD-0911 SOUTH PORTAL DIVE STRUCTURE - SOUTHBOUND TUNNEL OFF RAMP TO PENNANT HILLS ROAD - VIEWLOOKING NORTH







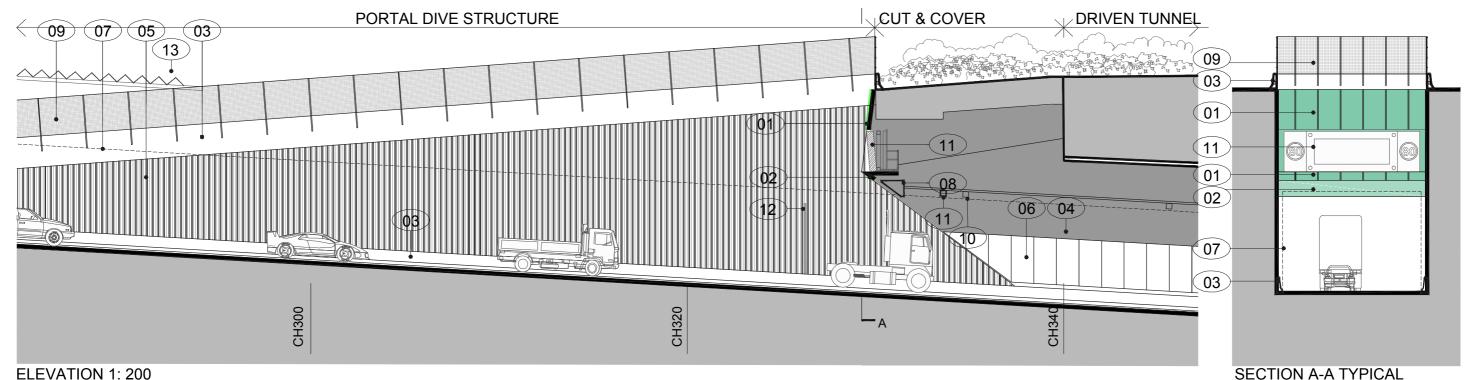


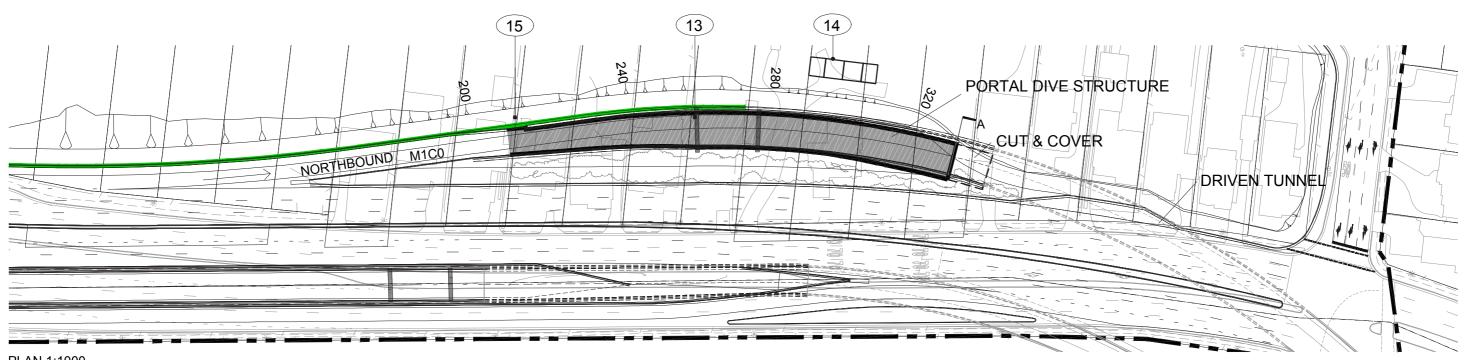
M1-M2-5000-DR-UD-0912 NORTHERN PORTAL - VIEW ALONG SOUTHBOUND ENTRY PORTAL











PLAN 1:1000

- FEATURE COLOURED GRC PANEL
- FEATURE COLOURED GRC PANEL UNDERCROFT
- 03) TYPE F CONCRETE BARRIER

- (04) TUNNEL SURFACE ABOVE LINING PANELS BLACK ZONE
- ABSORPTIVE ALUMINIUM ACOUSTIC PANELS
- (06) TUNNEL LINING VITRE PANELS

- (07) VEHICLE ENVELOPE
- 08 OVERHEIGHT VEHICLE BARRIER
- 09 THROW SCREEN TYPICAL 3M HIGH
- (10) TUNNEL LIGHTING
- (11) ITS SIGNAGE
- (12) BOOM GATES
- (13) TOLL GANTRY
- 14 TOLL GANTRY TECHNICAL SHELTER + GENERATOR
- (15) SHARED PATH



LANDSCAPE SHOWN IS INDICATIVE

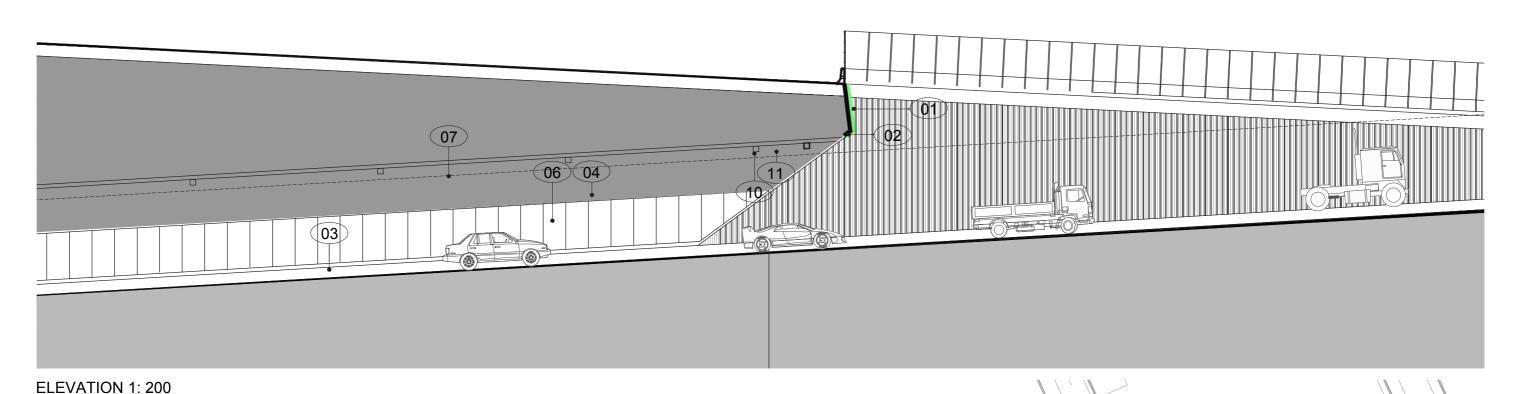
M1-M2-5000-DR-UD-0303 SOUTH PORTAL DIVE STRUCTURE - NORTHBOUND TUNNEL ON RAMP FROM PENNANT HILLS ROAD - CHAINAGE M1C0

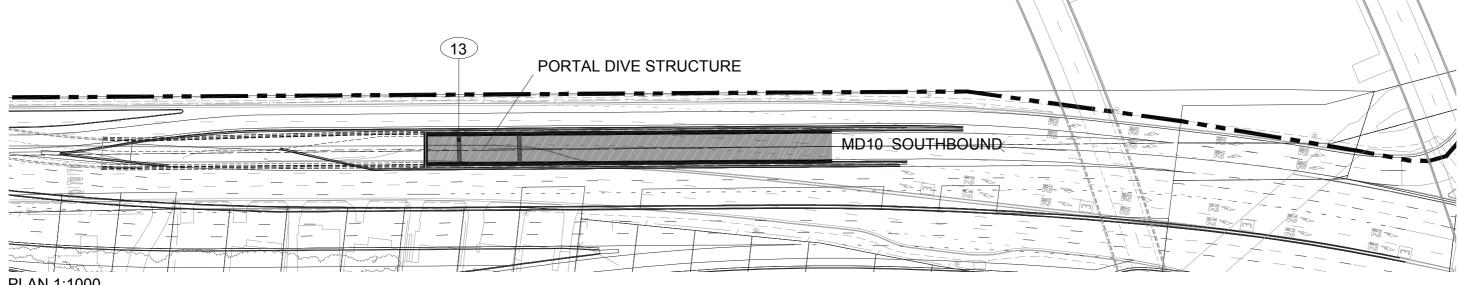






**DIVE STRUCTURE DRIVEN TUNNEL** 





PLAN 1:1000

- FEATURE COLOURED GRC PANEL
- FEATURE COLOURED GRC PANEL UNDERCROFT
- TYPE F CONCRETE BARRIER

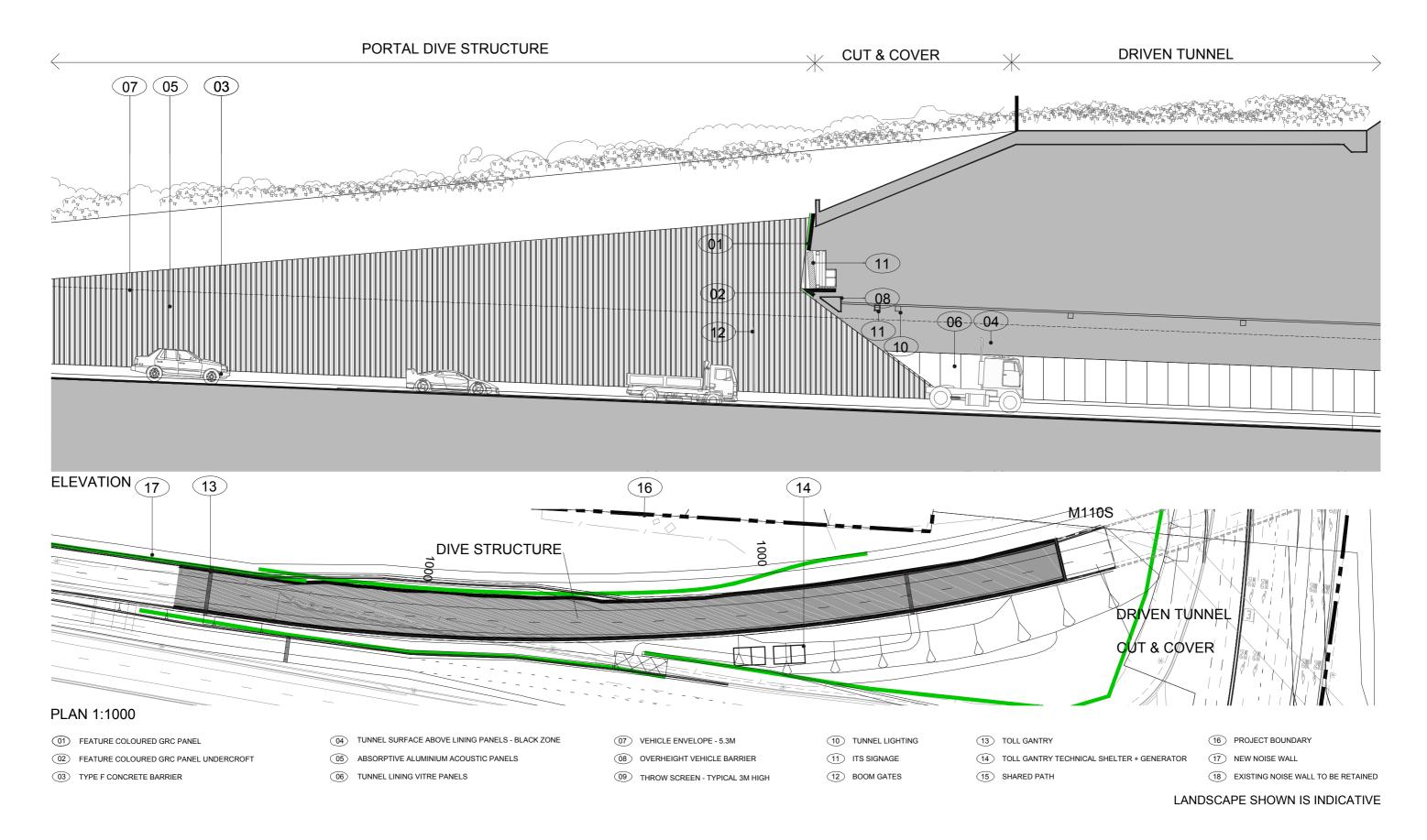
- 04 TUNNEL SURFACE ABOVE LINING PANELS BLACK ZONE
- ABSORPTIVE ALUMINIUM ACOUSTIC PANELS
- 06 TUNNEL LINING VITRE PANELS

- 07 VEHICLE ENVELOPE
- 08 OVERHEIGHT VEHICLE BARRIER
- 09 THROW SCREEN TYPICAL 3M HIGH
- 10 TUNNEL LIGHTING
- 11 ITS SIGNAGE
- (12) BOOM GATES
- 13 TOLL GANTRY
- 14 TOLL GANTRY TECHNICAL SHELTER + GENERATOR
- (15) SHARED PATH







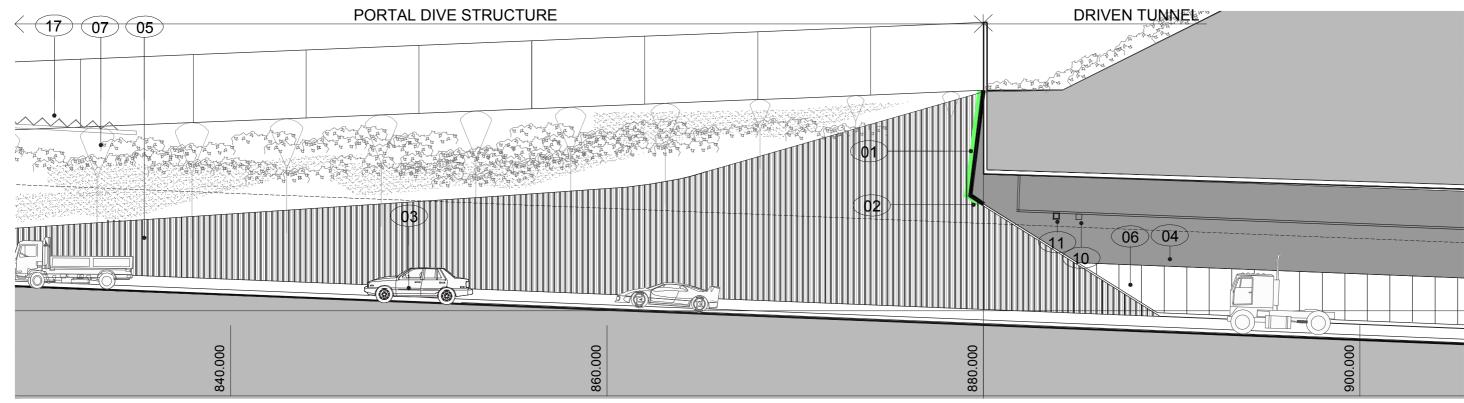


SCALE 1:200@A3

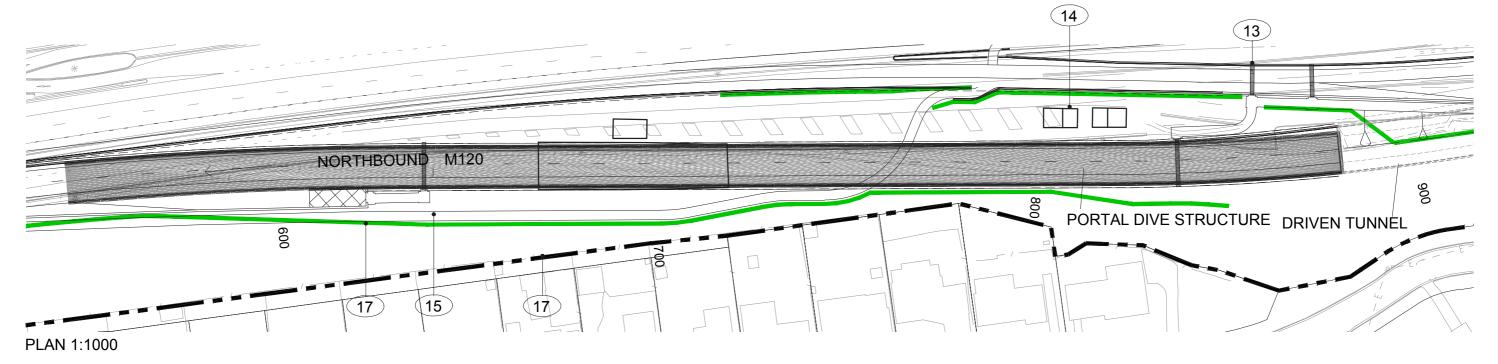








ELEVATION 1: 200



- 01) FEATURE COLOURED GRC PANEL
- 02 FEATURE COLOURED GRC PANEL UNDERCROFT
- 03) TYPE F CONCRETE BARRIER

- (04) TUNNEL SURFACE ABOVE LINING PANELS BLACK ZONE
- 05 ABSORPTIVE ALUMINIUM ACOUSTIC PANELS
- 06 TUNNEL LINING VITRE PANELS

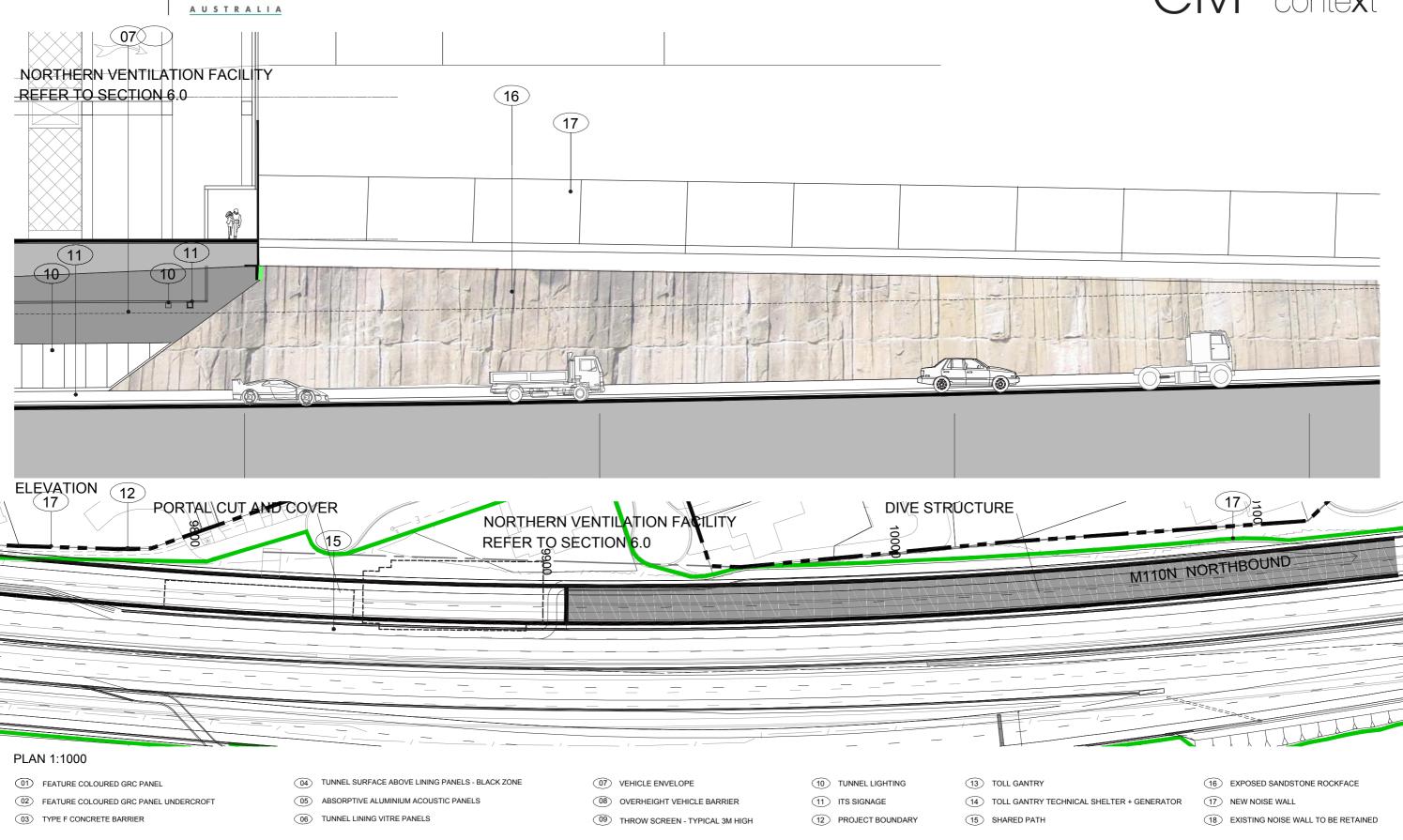
- 07 VEHICLE ENVELOPE 5.3M
- 08 OVERHEIGHT VEHICLE BARRIER
- 09 THROW SCREEN TYPICAL 3M HIGH
- 10 TUNNEL LIGHTING
- 11 ITS SIGNAGE
- (12) BOOM GATES
- 13 TOLL GANTRY
- 14 TOLL GANTRY TECHNICAL SHELTER + GENERATOR
- 15 SHARED PATH

- 16 PROJECT BOUNDARY
- 17 NEW NOISE WALL
- (18) EXISTING NOISE WALL TO BE RETAINED





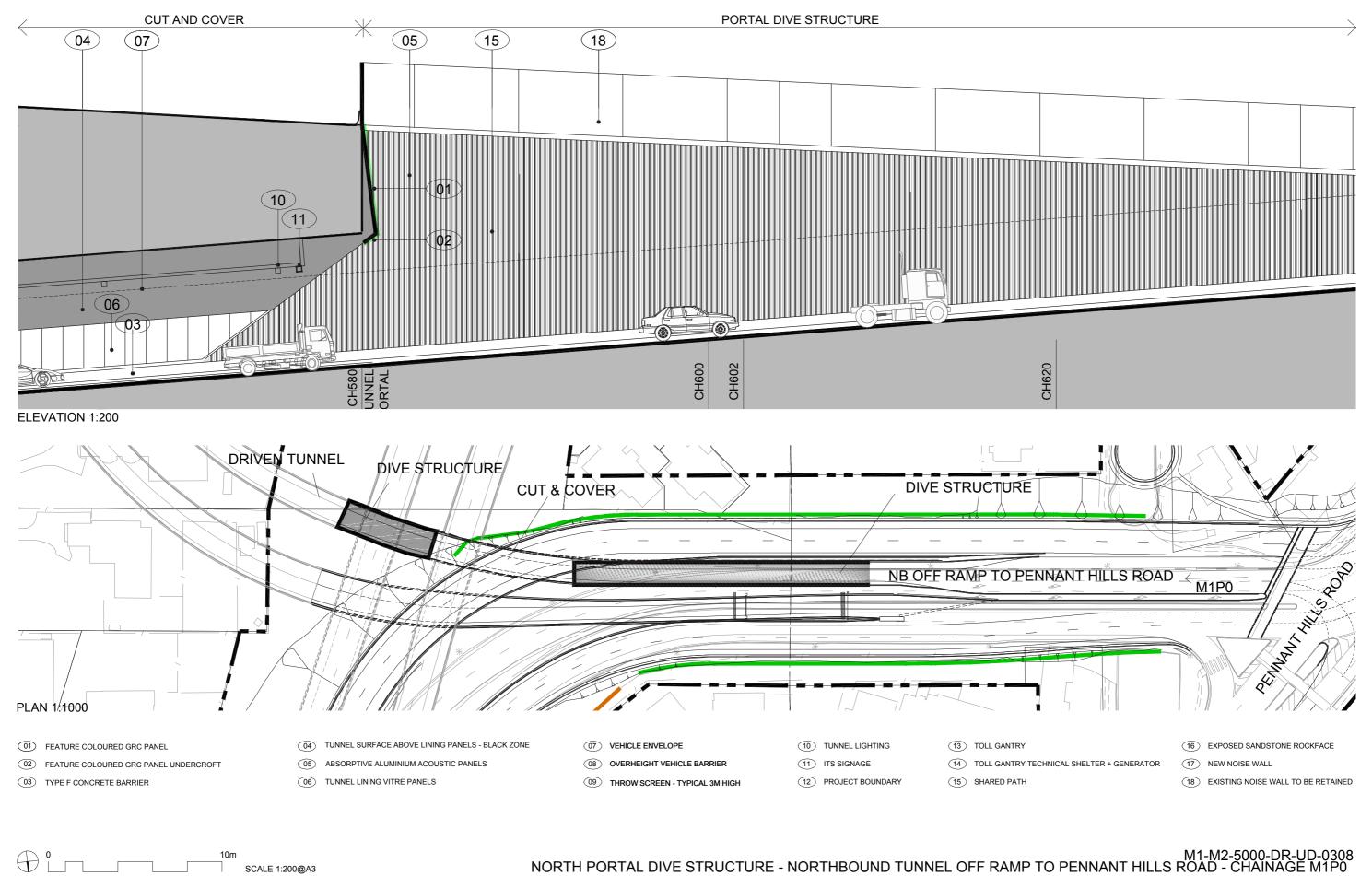








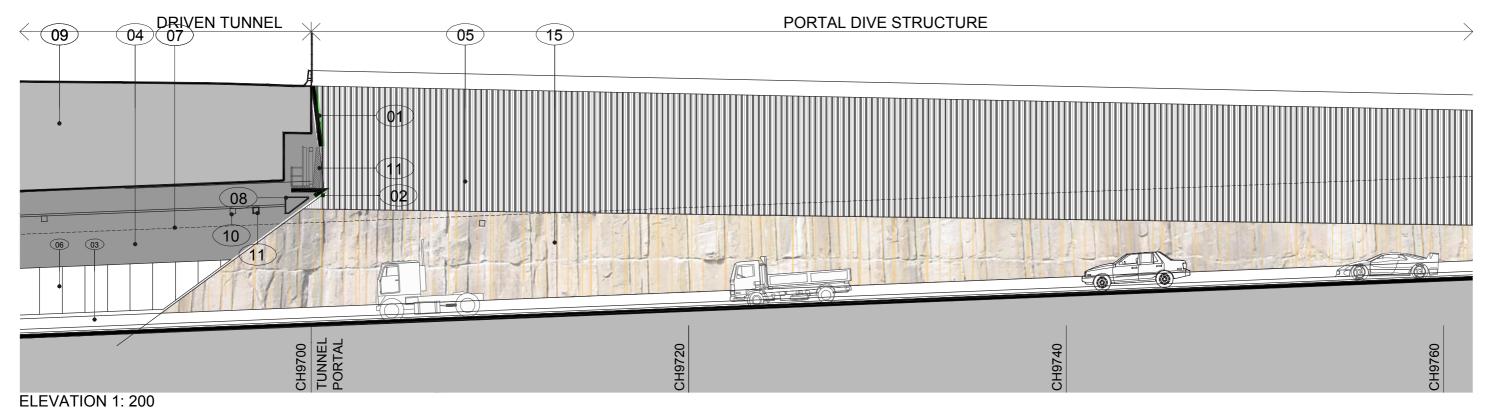


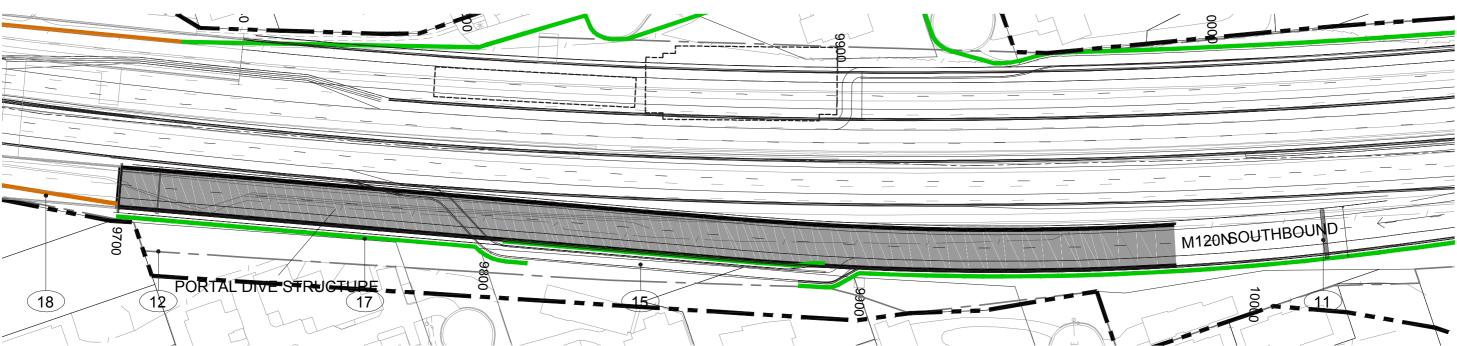












PLAN 1:1000

- 01) FEATURE COLOURED GRC PANEL
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- (15) SHARED PATH
- 18 EXISTING NOISE WALL TO BE RETAINED

(17) NEW NOISE WALL

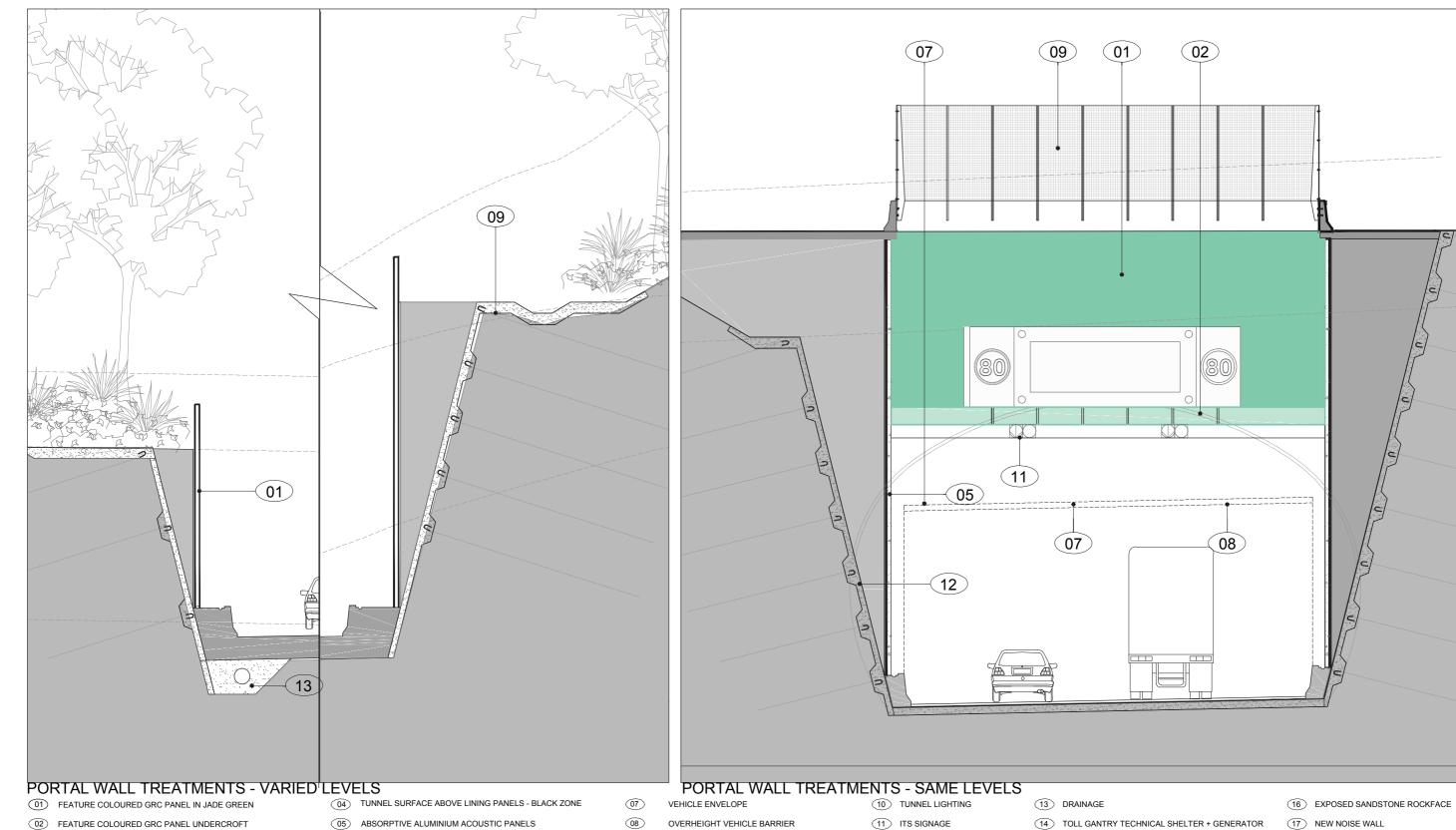
16 EXPOSED SANDSTONE ROCKFACE











09

THROW SCREEN - TYPICAL 3M HIGH

12 SHOTCRETE

15 SHARED PATH

0 1 2 3 4 5 SCALE 1:100@A

06 TUNNEL LINING VITRE PANELS

03 TYPE F CONCRETE BARRIER

18 EXISTING NOISE WALL TO BE RETAINED







### 5.0 Tunnel

#### 5.1 Introduction

The tunnel, as the primary experience of the project, forms the main element for understanding the urban design concept for the NorthConnex.

This section includes elements of the tunnel, such as tunnel cladding and all associated and visible services and utilities such as barrier systems, detection and security systems, overheight barriers, and cabinets.

#### 5.2 Principles

The guiding principles in the development of designs for these elements are to:

- Ensure that design excellence is an identifying hallmark of the tunnel experience;
- Create a safe, welcoming, memorable and well designed tunnel experience; and
- Provide an integrated approach across all visible elements;
- Ensure that the tunnel experience reinforce the objectives of linear identity.
- Provide a tunnel narrative that translates the existing experience of travelling along Pennant Hills Road to the new experience of travelling through the tunnel.

### 5.3 Strategies

Strategies to ensure the successful application of the guiding principles are to:

- Provide cohesive, seamless, modern, simple and robust design themes for portals and dive structures;
- Provide cladding systems for the tunnel linings which achieve durability;
- Integrate lighting, emergency services, barriers, traffic management systems and other visual elements into the overall design; and
- Implement new safety techniques into the urban and landscape design, blending with a brief visual experience at the tunnel approaches and within the tunnel.

The use of lightweight panels for the tunnel cladding provides numerous advantages including:

- A high quality finish and related detailing;
- Light weight cladding facilitating economical construction; and
- Achieves the required durability, colour and maintenance requirements.

Tunnel linings consist of several key features:

- Modular sizes;
- Vertical panel systems;
- Integral colours; and
- · A concealed fixing system.

Provide a tunnel narrative that translates the existing experience of travelling along Pennant Hills Road to the new experience of travelling through the tunnel.











M1-M2-5000-DR-UD-0981 TUNNEL INTERIOR - 'VISUAL EVENTS' SPECIAL FEATURE - IN CURVED ALIGNMENT







### 5.0 Tunnel

### 5.4 Tunnel Concept

The tunnel is seen as a gateway and transition element within the larger geographic area. It can be understood as a link from the urban area to the natural area of the coast.

Key tunnel issues include:

- Tunnel safety Maintaining operational criteria of all safely features;
- Perception of safety Maintaining driver recognition of safety features within the tunnel;
- Driver fatigue Providing interest along the journey and avoiding fatigue due to a repetitive visual environment;
- Driver orientation Providing awareness of where drivers are in Sydney or how far along their journey they have travelled; and
- Driver distraction Adding interest to the experience without compromising road awareness.

Tunnel safety can be maintained by providing required safety equipment, cross passages, breakdown bays and other elements. These are taken as starting points for safety.

Another major part of providing a safe tunnel environment is the attitude of drivers. They would by far make up the largest group of people using the tunnel and would effectively be a key stakeholder in ensuring safely within the tunnel. Elements that add interest, provide orientation and provide a sense of enjoyment to the journey can assist is reducing driver boredom and fatigue with a resulting improvement in awareness.

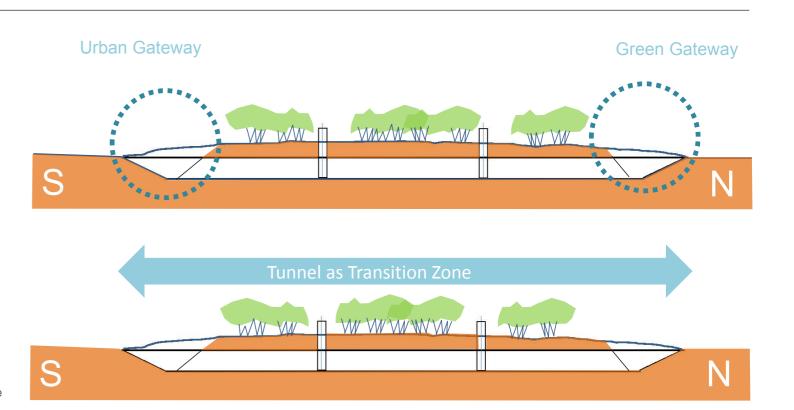
When considering the above ground driver experience there are any number of visual elements that provide interest, orientation and stimulation to the journey. The open views provided by the configuration of the M1 Pacific Motorway as it traverses the Hawkesbury provide visual delight and an experience to look forward to as one travels along the coast. They also provide a strong sense of orientation and a clear measure of one's progress along the journey. A tunnel environment generally lacks these markers and can become a tedious and claustrophobic experience. This condition makes it more difficult to capitalise on the major potential for drivers to enhance the safety of their tunnel journey.

The tunnel strategy for the project therefore has been developed around enhancing the idea of the tunnel as a gateway between different parts of the Sydney and the idea that orientation and interest are central to the realisation of safety.

The travel time in the NorthConnex tunnel at free flow would be approximately eight minutes which is a significant time to be travelling below ground devoid of the usual visual stimuli that engender attentiveness and alertness.

### 5.5 Tunnel Narrative Objectives

- Provide orientation to above ground features and add driver interest within the tunnel:
- Provide reference to easily recognised and publicly accessible places:
- Develop 'visual events' at approximately two minutes apart;
- Provide visual changes of significant magnitude to be experienced by drivers focused on the road;
- Provide gradual transitions to 'visual events' to avoid driver distraction; and
- Coordinate 'visual events' with tunnel safety features to ensure that legibility of safety features is not compromised.



M1-M2-5000-DR-UD-0202 TUNNEL NARRATIVE – TRANSITION ZONE







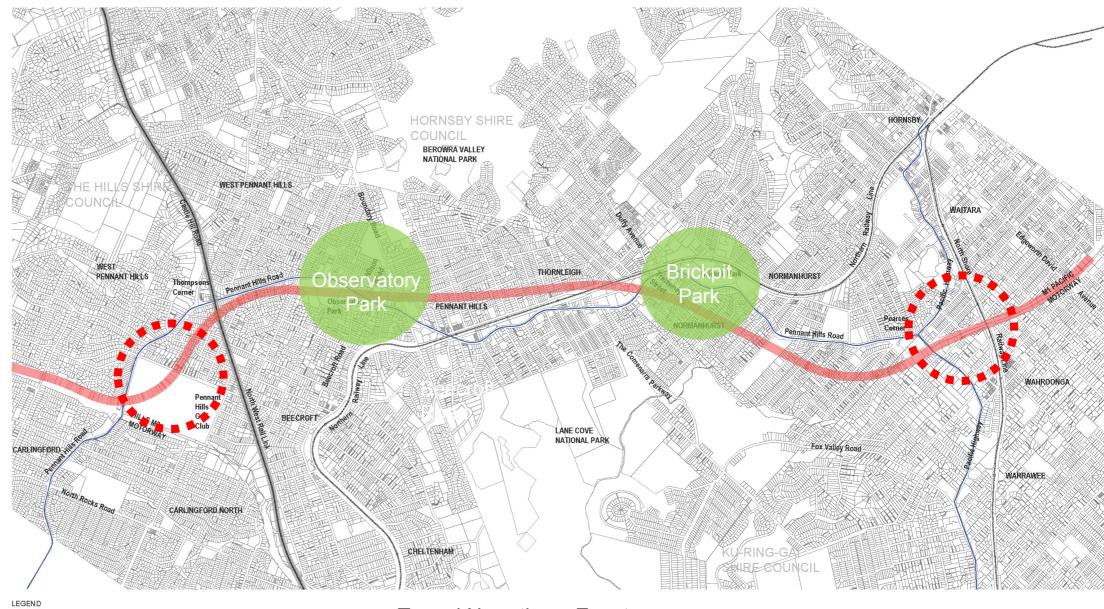
# 5.0 Tunnel

## 5.6 Tunnel Narrative 'Visual Events'

The narrative has been built around the surface narrative that is already familiar to drivers using this corridor, The tunnel narrative is a distillation of this narrative, a projection of some of the key surface elements into the underground experience of the tunnel.

#### Key attributes include:

- Gateway experiences at northern and southern interchange portals are highlighted with panels and special lighting;
- Reference 'visual events' to Observatory Park in the south and Brickpit Park in the north. These are first and foremost public places that can be visited and experienced. They are accessible to all and provide both visual and social reference points along the corridor;
- Feature lighting is provided to add emphasis and 'change the mood' for a short duration to provide further relief from the standard tunnel experience;
- A further enhancement could be the inclusion of the referenced place name. In large text the name 'Observatory Park', or 'Brickpit Park' could be placed on the panels. This text would need to be large enough to be legible at driver speed without diverting from the view of the road. Further detailed analysis would be required to determine the optimum size and spacing of any text. The illustration on the previous page provides an indicative view of one potential outcome; and
- Association of the 'visual events' with the driving experience of surface travel in terms of orientation, progress, and interest; and
- Use of the movement of driving to 'activate' the experience of the visual event allowing the driver to participate in the realisation of the 'visual event'



#### Tunnel Narrative – Event

Gateway

xisting Major Roads ennant Hills Road / Pacific Highway

orth West Rail Link Proposed Railway

- Provide for Orientation to Above Ground Features and Driver Interest within the Tunnel
- Public Open Space Narrative 2 Minute Interval Special Panelised Interior Features
- 96M Long Special Panel Zone Both sides of Tunnel Related to Parks Above
- Specialised Tunnel Panels to be Coordinated with Cross Passages at 120m OC

M1-M2-5000-DR-UD-0201 TUNNEL NARRATIVE – VISUAL EVENTS