

M4-M5 Link Tunnels

Construction update | February 2021

WestConnex is Australia's largest road infrastructure Project and is a critical part of a broader plan to get Sydney, and Australia, moving again. Along with the NSW Government's record investment in public transport infrastructure, WestConnex is easing congestion, creating tens of thousands of jobs, and connecting communities.

Construction for the final and most critical stage of WestConnex, the M4-M5 Link Tunnels is well underway. The twin 7.5km tunnels will provide a vital underground link between the M8 Motorway at St Peters and the New M4 at Haberfield, to create a western bypass of the CBD.

Project news

This edition marks almost two years since the M4-M5 Link Tunnels Project started tunnelling from Haberfield in March 2019. To date the Project has excavated around 80% of the tunnel top heading and removed over 6.3 million tonnes of tunnel spoil, using 28 roadheaders from sites in Haberfield, Camperdown/Annandale and St Peters. By mid-2021, 22 roadheaders will be dismantled and removed leaving 6 to complete the remaining excavation until the end of the year.

In January this year, the Project witnessed the first breakthrough between the M4-M5 Link Tunnels Project and the WestConnex M8. This was a major milestone for the Project and a rare occurrence where a new tunnel breaks into an existing operational motorway. The event was attended by the Minister for Transport and Roads, Andrew Constance, Federal Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts, Paul Fletcher and TfNSW's NSW Acting Deputy Secretary, Howard Collins.

The two cranes used to lift concrete beams and complete the permanent works at the Campbell Road site in St Peters are currently Australia's largest in their field. The Marr crane weighs over 330 tonnes and was used to lift 78 tonne Super T concrete beams into place on site. At the end of last year, the Marr crane was replaced by a Hammerhead crane. This crane has a longer boom and will stay onsite until the ventilation building is completed in 2022.



Tower crane at the Campbell Road site in St Peters and the Campbell Road site / M8 breakthrough photo taken on 31 January 2021

Construction update

Tunnel excavation continues with over 17 kilometres of tunnel excavated, leaving around 4.5 kilometres to go. With tunnelling activities moving towards completion, the civil, mechanical and electrical fit out activities will continue within the tunnels. At this stage around 29% of in-tunnel civil work has been completed including drainage, barriers and pavement installations.

The Mechanical and Electrical (M&E) teams are now working in over 2 kilometres of the tunnel with electrical work including installation of cable ladders, pulling cables and connecting components. The mechanical work consists of drilling and anchoring as well as installation of the fire and ventilation systems. At the beginning of the year the M&E team finished installing a temporary testing facility at Mascot. This dedicated testing facility is where the team validate and test tunnel systems before they will be installed and connected to the main Motorway Control Centre located in St Peters.

Due to the hot weather conditions at the end of last year, the Project needed to use 50 tonnes of ice cubes for the final concrete pour at the St Peters site. The ice cubes were required to reduce the maximum temperature of heat and hydration reaction while the concrete was setting onsite. The special ice cubes took four days to make offsite and were then carefully transported to St Peters where they were added to the concrete absorbing the heat and reducing the overall concrete temperature. The concrete went through a 14-day curing process where it was further protected from the harsh weather conditions to maintain the optimal concrete temperature while it was setting.

The permanent sewer, water lines and HV tunnel power supply currently being installed at the Campbell Road site will continue until April 2021. Civil fit out in the Wattle Street ramps at Haberfield, including piling, installation of signage and overhead traffic sensors will be ongoing intermittently throughout the year.

Update on controlled blasting

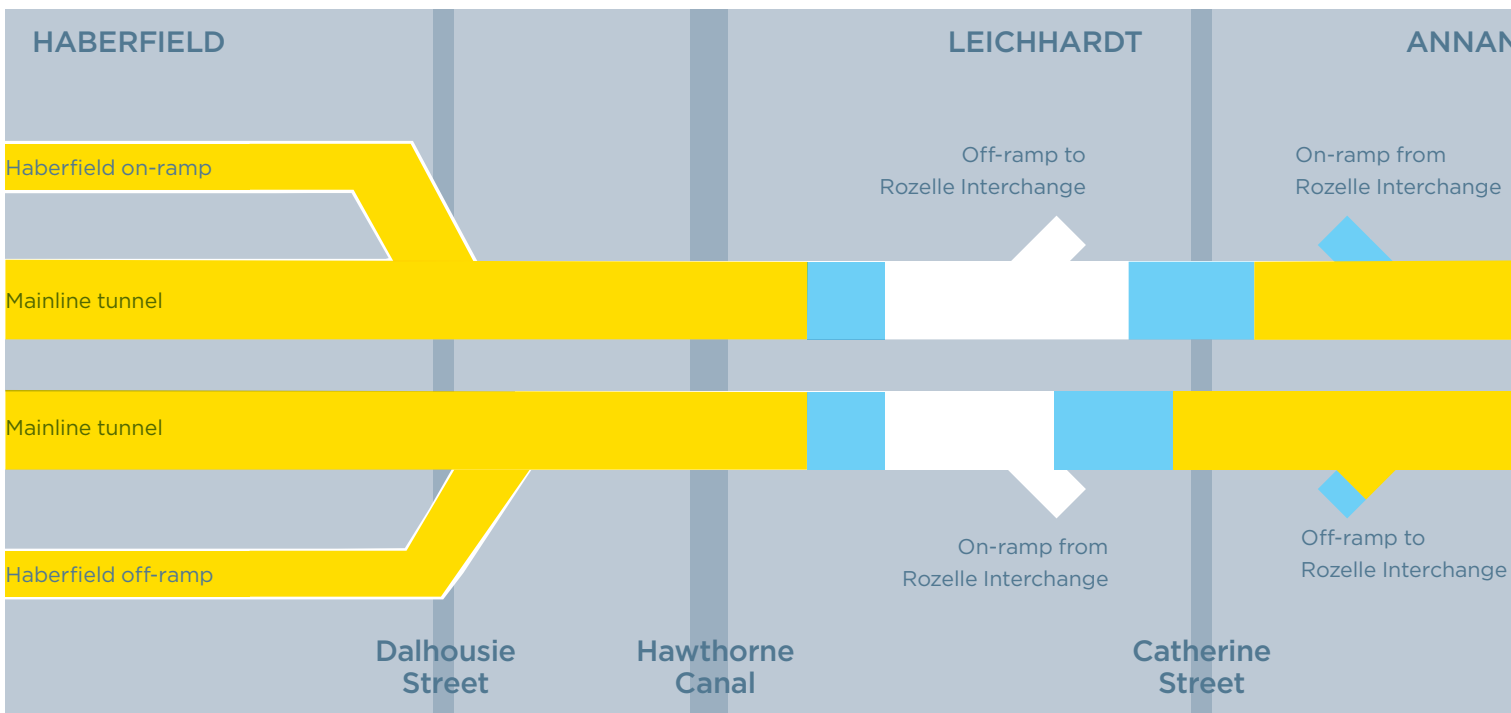
The previously considered use of controlled blasting between the 36th Battalion and Pioneers Memorial Parks in Leichhardt will not be proceeding. We thank the community for their patience as we considered this option late last year.

First mainline tunnel breakthrough

Following the recent breakthrough milestone from the M4-M5 Link Tunnels into the WestConnex M8 in St Peters, the M4-M5 Link Tunnels Project is also expecting its first mainline tunnel breakthrough when the St Peters and Camperdown/Annandale teams meet under Newtown in March/April this year.

This breakthrough will mark over 85% completion of mainline tunnelling for the Project and an impressive 18.3 kilometres of tunnel excavated in a little over two years.

The final breakthrough for the Project is expected later in 2021, when the Haberfield and Camperdown/Annandale teams meet under Leichhardt.



For more detailed progress of construction, please view the monthly progress notifications on the WestConnex website.

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Night work – Three month look ahead

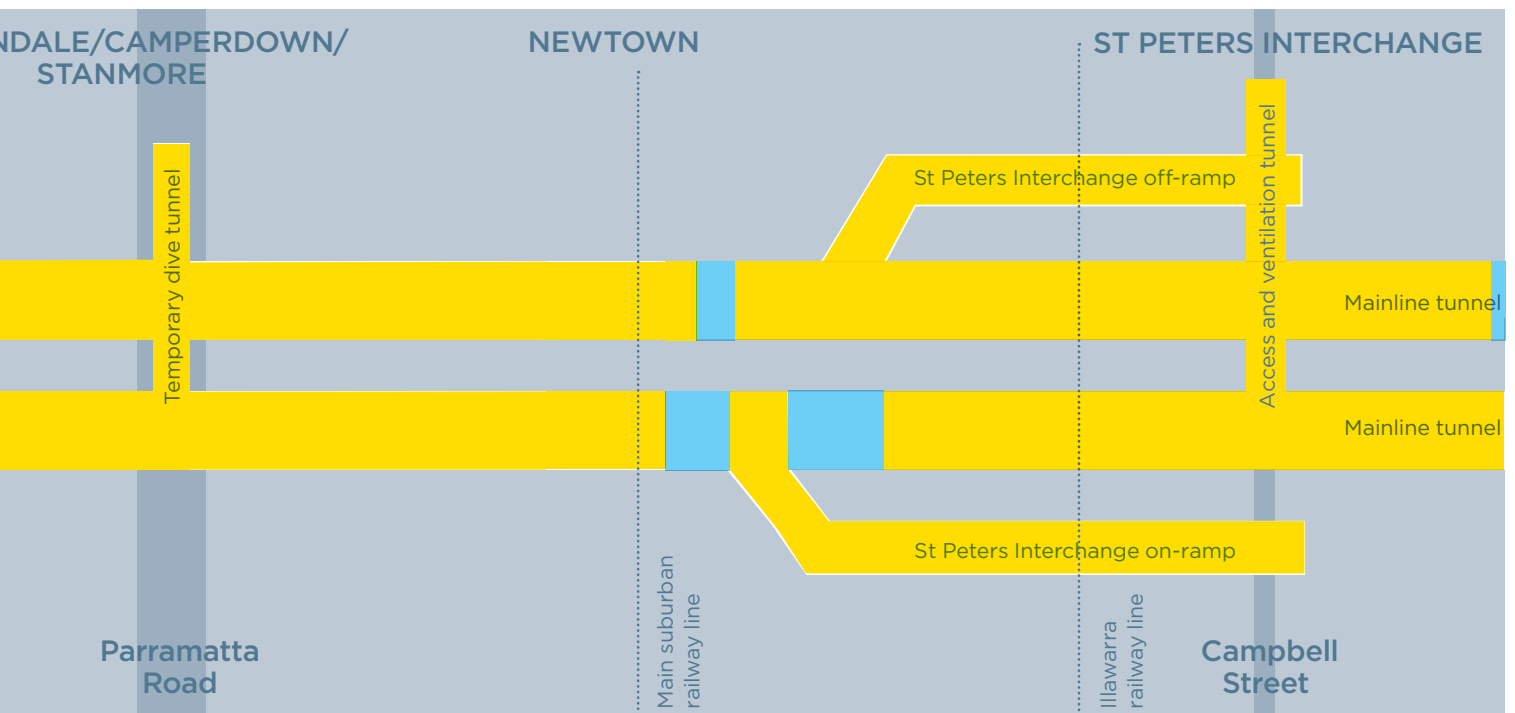
While tunnelling activities take place 24 hours per day, seven days a week, other work activities are generally carried out during standard construction hours. Some activities however must be carried out at night for the safety of workers, motorists and pedestrians. Please see below for a high-level overview of night time construction work that may occur over the next three months. If you have an enquiry, complaint or would like to provide feedback about this planned work, please call the M4-M5 Link Tunnels team on the details provided below.

Activity	Location	Impact	Timing
Oversize equipment deliveries	All sites	Low noise	Regularly in accordance with EPL*
Environmental management and emergency works	All sites	Subject to the location and nature of the work	Only if required due to environmental or safety risk
Crane operation	Campbell Road Civil and Tunnel Site	Low	Regularly in accordance with EPL*
Concrete pours	Campbell Road Civil and Tunnel Site	Medium	4 nights in March and April weather and site conditions permitting
Spoil load out	St Peters and Haberfield	Low	Regularly in accordance with EPL*
Utilities installation, piling and civil work, restoration of footpaths and driveway	St Peters and Haberfield	Medium and High	Up to 10 nights in February, March and April weather and site conditions permitting
Service installation	St Peters, Mascot, Waterloo and Haberfield	Medium and High	10 nights per month or across all months in February, March and April weather and site conditions permitting
Signage installation	St Peters and Haberfield	Medium and High	10 nights per month or across all months in February, March and April weather and site conditions permitting

* Environmental Protection Licence

KEY

- Approximate heading excavation complete as of February 2021
- Expected progress of heading excavation as of May 2021



www.westconnex.com.au/document-library/

Christmas toy collection for the Sydney Children's Hospital

In the lead up to Christmas, the M4-M5 Link Tunnels Project spread the word and quickly gathered up toy donations for the Sydney Children's Hospital in Randwick. The donation drive was driven by one of the Project's site foremen at the St Peters site. The Project collected over eight Santa sacks filled with toys, educational aids and gift cards which were delivered to the hospital on 18 December 2020 to be shared with babies, children and young people who were spending their Christmas in hospital.



Christmas toy collection for the Sydney Children's Hospital in Randwick

Movember fundraising

A site-versus-site competition to raise money and awareness for men's health as part of Movember 2020 was run across all Project sites. Teams from Haberfield, Camperdown/Annandale, St Peters and Mascot participated in a number of fun and inclusive activities to encourage the difficult conversation that Movember advocates for, such as mental health and suicide prevention, prostate cancer and testicular cancer. By the end of November 2020, the sites raised just under \$10,000 for the worthy cause. The St Peters team raised the most money and therefore took out the shiny Movember Mo-phy (trophy).



Movember 2020 winning trophy

WestConnex Community Grant Program

WestConnex | Transurban is thrilled to support 25 local organisations through the most recent round of community grants. The initiatives chosen will directly benefit more than 19,000 people and indirectly benefit almost 52,000 people across the WestConnex corridor. Newtown Public School received funding for a new adventure playground and Kidsafe NSW will be able to offer their accredited child car seat training course to support vulnerable families at Stretch-A-Family, Good Shepherd and YWCA in the Inner West. The next round will open on Monday 29 March 2021 - visit www.westconnex.com.au/community



Kidsafe car seat fitting demonstration

For more information

Our Community Information Centre at 201-205 Parramatta Road, Haberfield (corner of Alt Street) is open for visitors between 9am and 5pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays (or by appointment on Tuesdays and Thursdays), excluding public holidays. You can also contact the WestConnex info line on **1800 660 248**, email **info@m4-m5linktunnels.com.au** or visit westconnex.com.au/roads-Projects/m4-m5-link-tunnels/ for more information.



We speak your language

To learn more, visit westconnex.com.au. Need an interpreter? Call the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450**.