Sydney’s population is set to grow by more than one million people in the next 10 years, with our road network expected to cater for an estimated 19 million trips per day by 2031.

The NSW Government is spending a record $51.2 billion on road and public transport projects over the next four years to deliver an integrated transport solution for greater Sydney.

WestConnex is part of the Government’s vision for supporting Sydney’s growing population. It will provide safer, faster and more reliable travel, and make it easier for businesses and communities to connect.

The M4-M5 Link is the crucial final stage of WestConnex, connecting the New M4 tunnels with the New M5 tunnels, allowing the full benefits of WestConnex to be realised.

M4-M5 Link work starts this year
The NSW Minister for Planning approved the M4-M5 Link project in April 2018.

The M4-M5 Link will be built in two stages:

1. Work will start later this year on the M4-M5 Link tunnels connecting the New M4 tunnels in Haberfield with the New M5 tunnels in St Peters. A Motorway Operations Complex at Campbell Road, St Peters will also be constructed.

2. Procurement is underway for the Rozelle Interchange and Iron Cove Link tunnels, which will connect the M4-M5 Link to other sections of the road network. Early work will start later this year, with major work scheduled to start in 2019.
The tunnels and supporting facilities for the first stage of the M4-M5 Link project will be built by LSB Joint Venture, comprising Lendlease Engineering, Samsung C&T Corporation and Bouygues Construction.

Changes to benefit the community
Roads and Maritime Services and Sydney Motorway Corporation are working with LSB Joint Venture to refine the design and construction plans for the tunnels.

Eight sites were described and assessed in the M4-M5 Link Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Submissions and Preferred Infrastructure Report (SPIR) to support construction of the M4-M5 Link tunnels.

LSB Joint Venture plans to use only seven of these sites to support construction of the M4-M5 Link tunnels:
- Northcote Street, Haberfield (existing New M4 site)
- Parramatta Road, Haberfield (formerly Muirs)
- Parramatta Road, Ashfield (formerly Muirs)
- Wattle Street, Haberfield (existing New M4 site)
- Pyrmont Bridge Road, Camperdown/Annandale
- Campbell Road, St Peters (existing New M5 site)
- White Bay, Rozelle

The construction site at 7 Darley Road, Leichhardt described and assessed in the EIS is now not required to construct or operate the M4-M5 Link.

The Parramatta Road sites at Ashfield and Haberfield, formerly owned by Muirs will not be used for tunnelling. In accordance with the M4-M5 Link Conditions of Approval, LSB Joint Venture is developing plans for the use of the Parramatta Road sites for lower impact activities such as site offices, worker, amenities, parking and material storage. The Department of Planning and Environment will review these plans to ensure they are consistent with the Conditions of Approval.

The existing New M4 tunnelling construction site at Northcote Street, Haberfield is proposed for use as a tunnelling and civil construction site. The existing acoustic shed would remain in place, reducing disturbance to the community around this site. Roads and Maritime will consult further with the community in the coming weeks regarding this proposed change.

M4-M5 Link Conditions of Approval
Strict conditions will be in place during construction and operation of the M4-M5 Link to further reduce impacts on local communities including:
- stronger requirements to reduce and mitigate construction noise
- better coordination of utility work
- trucks must be fitted with GPS devices to ensure they stick to the designated haulage routes
- trucks must also have visible signage stating they are working for WestConnex
- measures such as truck marshalling and staff parking on site to further reduce traffic and parking impacts.

Building the tunnels
Work to excavate the M4-M5 Link tunnels is scheduled to start early 2019. Tunnelling activities will operate continuously, 24-hours a day, seven-days a week. The impact on properties above the tunnels is expected to be minimal and temporary. Strict safety requirements will be adhered to in the design, construction and operation of the tunnels.

At their deepest point, the tunnels are around 65 metres below ground-level, with shallower sections approaching the interchanges and portals (tunnel entries and exits). The depth of the tunnels means any impact on the properties above is highly unlikely.

Property owners will be notified if they are within 50 metres of the tunnel alignment and offered a property condition survey before and after construction. This ensures a clear record of property conditions before construction starts. Any damage attributed to the project will be repaired at no cost to the property owner.

Subsurface acquisition
Roads and Maritime Services manages all property acquisitions for the project and will need to compulsorily acquire ‘subsurface’ land to create a path for the tunnel. This includes some land passing directly under properties. The surface area and any dwellings or other structures on your land would not be affected by subsurface acquisition. Roads and Maritime Service will contact property owners subject to subsurface acquisition progressively over the coming months.
Your feedback is welcome

We thank the community for the valuable feedback they have provided during the development of the M4-M5 Link. Community feedback has shaped the design of the M4-M5 Link and will reduce impacts to communities in the M4-M5 Link corridor. The M4-M5 Link team will continue to work with the local community to further refine construction and design of the M4-M5 Link tunnels.

We will continue to consult and provide the local community with information via a range of forums including community information sessions, face to face meetings, community reference groups, door knocks, emails and flyers.

The community is also welcome to contact us and provide their feedback on the changes at any time. Information on contacting the M4-M5 Link team and providing feedback is provided below.

Some changes to the M4-M5 Link tunnels design and construction will require detailed assessment and public exhibition, known as a Modification, to meet Department of Planning and Environment requirements. The project team is engaging with Department of Planning and Environment to determine the assessment requirements and Roads and Maritime will be in contact with the community throughout July and August with more details.

Contact us

If you would like further information about the M4-M5 Link project or would like to provide feedback on the changes to the M4-M5 Link, please email info@westconnex.com.au or phone 1800 660 248 and ask to speak to a member of the M4-M5 Link Roads and Maritime community engagement team.

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