

MEDIA RELEASE

David Campbell MP
Minister for Transport and Roads



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR M2 UPGRADE ON DISPLAY

19 Wednesday 2010

Minister for Transport and Roads David Campbell today said the Environmental Assessment for the upgrade of the M2 motorway is now on display for public comment.

“This is a significant project which will benefit a lot of people so I encourage everyone to take some time and comment on the proposal,” Mr Campbell said.

“The easiest way for people to comment is by visiting the Department of Planning’s website, the Hills M2 website or the RTA’s website and give feedback.

“This project will benefit the 17,000 bus commuters and 100,000 motorists who use the M2 every weekday.

“Work is set to start on this important project by the end of 2010 and it will be completed within two years.

“The upgrade will include adding an additional lane and widening the tunnel in both directions and reinstating the emergency breakdown lane westbound between Lane Cove Road and Beecroft Road, used by cyclists.

“The speed limit will also be lifted to 100kmh and access from the Sydney orbital to Windsor Road and Macquarie Park will be greatly improved,” Mr Campbell said.

Mr Campbell said the upgrade would be funded by Hills M2, with the NSW Government contributing by extending the M2 concession by four years, and allowing for a one-off increase in the toll of around 8 per cent on completion of the work.

The project also includes a number of new electronically tolled on and off ramps which will provide better access to Sydney’s growing residential and business centres including:

- New west facing on and off ramps at Windsor Road, Baulkham Hills
- A new eastbound on ramp from Christie Road, Macquarie Park
- A new westbound off ramp to Talavera Road at Herring Road, Macquarie Park.

This project will create around 800 construction and engineering jobs as well as 2,400 indirect jobs during the life of the project.

The Environmental Assessment for this project is now being publicly exhibited and feedback is being sought from the community.

The displays will be at various locations including the council offices of Ryde, Hornsby, Hills Shire, Parramatta, Blacktown and Lane Cove from today to Monday 21 June. Community information sessions will also be held during the exhibition period.

For more information about the displays or to provide feedback people can call 1800 196 266 or email the M2 Upgrade team at enquiries@hillsm2upgrade.com.au.

The Environmental Assessment can be found on the Department of Planning's website at www.planning.nsw.gov.au and the RTA's website at www.rta.nsw.gov.au

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