

Our reference: VRAT_11.03.11_AN_1

14 March

Dear resident

Re: Ventura Road track – we are seeking your feedback

The Darling Mills Creek Bridge will be widened by about 3.5m on the eastbound carriageway (northern side) to provide one extra eastbound traffic lane. A construction compound and work area will be set up under the bridge to enable this work to be undertaken.

In an effort to reduce impacts to the environment and residents a tower crane will be set up at Darling Mills Creek Bridge which will:

- Reduce the amount of disturbance to vegetation underneath the bridge.
- Reduce the amount of night work required to widen the bridge.
- Enable the bulk of construction materials to be lowered into the compound from the motorway rather than being delivered on trucks through local access roads.

To assist in the set up of the tower crane and to create safe and stable working areas it is proposed to temporarily use the existing vehicle access track at the end of Ventura Road. It would not be used as a general vehicle thoroughfare and does not form part of any permanent bridge access plan by Hills M2 (who are the operator of the motorway).

The track would be used during the day for the following activities:

- Moving minimal pieces construction equipment in and out of the works area.
- Allowing infrequent light vehicle access.
- In the event of an emergency.

No widening of the track or extensive excavation is proposed. The track would be maintained in a fit and stable condition. Existing and newly created pot holes and wheel ruts would be filled in with stabilising material. Any stabilising material used on the track would be free from contaminants and in line with the DECCW Waste Classification Guidelines (2009).

The use of the tower crane reduces the need for new significant access paths to be established. The areas directly around the bridge abutments are very steep, unstable and would require significant amount of earthworks and clearing to establish new access tracks. This would result in increased environmental impacts in comparison to utilising the existing access track. Please note that the proposal to use the existing access track would require the removal of one Black Wattle and some trimming of overhanging vegetation. Two existing Turpentine trees have been noted by the project team and would be protected by fencing while the track is used.

Where possible the track would remain accessible to the community. Regardless of the proposed use of the access track there will be times during construction, due to safety reasons, that access under Darling Mills Bridge will be closed. Points of closure and suggested alternate routes are shown on the attached map.



Hills M2 Upgrade
breakdown safety

In the case of breakdown:

- Stay in your vehicle
- Switch on your hazard lights
- Call **1800 196 266**
- Wait for assistance

We are currently assessing the proposal to use the access track and would like to seek feedback from the community. Comments on the proposal will be received until 25 March and can be sent by email to enquiries@hillsm2upgrade.com.au or by mail to Locked Bag 2215, North Ryde BC NSW 1670. Alternatively you can contact the project team directly on **1800 196 266**.

A separate notification will be provided to nearby residents and bushwalking groups advising of the key issues raised by the community, how the project team would minimise the impacts and what decision has been made regarding use of the access track by the project team.

Kind regards

Sanjin Muhic

Hills M2 Upgrade Community Relations Manager

M2Upgrade project

A team consisting of The Roads and Traffic Authority of NSW, The Hills Motorway Limited and Hills Motorway Management Limited (as trustee of the Hills Motorway Trust)

Go to: www.hillsm2upgrade.com.au

Live traffic: <http://www.livetraffic.nsw.com.au/>

Email: enquiries@hillsm2upgrade.com.au

Call: 1800 196 266 (free call)

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Pedestrian detour – Darling Mills Creek

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