



Australian Government

BUILDING OUR FUTURE



Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan – Local Roads Package

Erskine Park Road Upgrade Community Consultation Report

March 2017

Executive summary

This report provides a summary of the community consultation carried out by Penrith City Council in November and December 2016 on a proposal for intersection improvements along Erskine Park Road, Erskine Park.

The Australian Government is funding a \$200 million Local Roads Package as part of the Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan to improve road safety and traffic flow efficiency. Key intersection upgrades along Erskine Park Road, Erskine Park are part of this funding. The key features of the proposed upgrade include:

- Erskine Park Road and Bennett Road – upgrade the intersection and install new traffic signals
- Erskine Park Road and Peppertree Drive – upgrade the existing intersection to a new seagull intersection
- Erskine Park Road and Coonawarra Drive – upgrade the existing intersection to a new seagull intersection
- Erskine Park Road & Explorers Way – upgrade the intersection and install new traffic signals
- Erskine Park Road between Coonawarra Drive and Bennett Road – upgrade to four lane median separated dual carriageway (two lanes in each direction) and a new shared user path.

At the completion of the Erskine Park Road Upgrade, Erskine Park Road will be widened to a four lane dual carriageway between Bennett Road and Explorers Way to join the existing four lane sections towards the M4 Motorway and Swallow Drive.

Letters have been distributed to the community and stakeholders in the local area, inviting feedback.

Penrith Council received 20 comments from 14 people with 11 about design, four about parking, one about traffic signals, three about noise and vibration, and one about environmental impacts.

Penrith City Council will provide responses to all feedback through this report and directly to members of the community and stakeholders who have made comments.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for considering our proposal and providing comments.

Penrith City Council has reviewed all feedback and is proceeding with the detailed design of the proposed intersection improvements along Erskine Park Road, Erskine Park.

Construction is expected to start late 2017 and we will keep the community updated as this project progresses.

Contents

Executive summary.....	1
1. Introduction	3
1.1. Background	3
1.2. The Proposal	3
2. Introduction	4
2.1 Consultation Objectives.....	4
2.2 How Consultation was done	4
3. Consultation Summary.....	5
3.1. Overview	5
4. Decision	7
5. Next Steps	7
Appendix A – Have Your Say November 2016	8
Appendix B – Distribution Area	9

Figures and tables

Table 1 – How consultation was done	5
Table 2 – Consultation overview	6

1. Introduction

1.1. Background

Erskine Park Road is located in the Penrith City Council Local Government Area (LGA). Erskine Park Road has a combination of two and four lane road configurations, running north-south and connecting the M4 Motorway to Mamre Road and providing access to the suburbs of St Clair and Erskine Park. The M4 Motorway is located about 280 metres north of the proposal. Where there are two lanes in each direction, a raised median separates the northbound and southbound carriageway. Explorers Way, Coonawarra Drive, Peppertree Drive and Bennett Road all form intersections with Erskine Park Road, which are all not currently signalised.

1.2. The Proposal

The Australian Government is funding a \$200 million Local Road Package as part of its \$3.6 billion Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan, to be completed over the next 10 years to improve road safety and traffic flow efficiency on Sydney's major roads.

The Local Roads Package includes a proposal to upgrade four intersections along Erskine Park Road, Erskine Park and to improve turning lanes from Erskine Park Road:

- Erskine Park Road and Bennett Road – upgrade the intersection and install new traffic signals
- Erskine Park Road and Peppertree Drive – upgrade the existing intersection to a new seagull intersection
- Erskine Park Road and Coonawarra Drive – upgrade the existing intersection to a new seagull intersection
- Erskine Park Road & Explorers Way – upgrade the intersection and install new traffic signals
- Erskine Park Road between Coonawarra Drive and Bennett Road – upgrade to four lane median separated dual carriageway (two lanes in each direction) and a new shared user path.

The extent of works will include 200m from each intersection along Erskine Park Road state road corridors and 100m to all side streets.

2. Consultation Approach

2.1 Consultation Objectives

We consulted with the community during November and December 2016 to:

- Seek comment, feedback, ideas and suggestions for us to consider when developing the detailed design.
- Build a database of interested and concerned community members with whom we can continue to engage during the proposal's development.

2.2 How Consultation was done

We sought feedback between 25th November 2016 and 23rd December 2016. Community members and stakeholders were encouraged to provide their feedback and make comments via mail, email or phone contact with the project team. Our consultation tools included:

Table 1 – How consultation was done

Method	Extent
Targeted Letters – 25 th November 2016	Distributed to 27 properties.
Have your say flyer – 29 th -30 th November 2016	Distributed to 800 properties within the Erskine Park area. A webpage was established and hard copies of documents were available in local libraries.

3. Consultation Summary

3.1. Overview

Penrith Council received twenty comments from fourteen people. Eleven comments were about design, four about parking, one about traffic signals, three about noise and vibration, and one comment was about environmental impacts.

Table 2 – Consultation overview

Category	Matter Raised	Penrith Council Response
Design 11 Comments	Visibility and concern over safety of the right hand turn out of Coonawarra Drive.	The designer will check the site distance in relation to turning right out of Coonawarra Drive.
	Suggestion to close the right hand turn lane from Coonawarra Drive, and to create a pedestrian refuge facility for pedestrians crossing Coonawarra Drive at this intersection.	The suggestions will be assessed during the appropriate review stages in the design process.
	Upgrading the section of road between Bennett Road and Lenore Drive should also be done. (NOTE: this section is outside of the Project scope.)	Funding is only approved for current intersections as part of the Round 2 funding agreement. Penrith Council is likely to recommend the omitted section in the next round of funding for Round 3 funding.
	Request for the laneway on Omega Place, Erskine Park, to be permanently closed.	This designated laneway may not be able to be permanently closed, however, further investigation into the matter will be undertaken by the design team.
	Inquiry on future plans to create Westbound ramps at the M4 Roper Road interchange (NOTE: this section is outside of the Project scope)	The M4 motorway is funded and directly managed through Roads and Maritime Services (RMS), not council. The RMS are currently looking into upgrading existing ramps for the M4 Smart Motorway project, but the inclusion of missing ramps may not be in this scope.
	Suggestion that a roundabout would prove more effective than a seagull intersection for both	Erskine Park Road is an approved B-Double truck route, with Penrith Council's designer confirming that not enough space is available for the roundabout to cater for such vehicles.

	Coonawarra Drive and Peppertree Drive.	<p>Unfortunately, this space can only be achieved through the acquisition of private property.</p> <p>As suggested in the traffic modelling study, traffic will predominately use the Bennett Road traffic signals instead of Coonawarra Drive, as the traffic signals will make it easier to use.</p> <p>In addition, a seagull intersection is more cost effective if future upgrading to traffic signals is required.</p>
Parking 4 Comments	No Parking zone will cause visitors to walk a further distance than usual.	The designer will look into limited “No Parking” areas to peak times only where practicable, with restrictions similar to those at the Banks Drive traffic signals.
	Loss of parking can cause inconvenience for support services such as medical home visits.	The residents will be notified of the outcome in relation to modifying the parking restrictions in order to access services.
	Suggested timing restrictions to compensate for the loss of parking on Coonawarra Drive.	The design team will further investigate the issue to minimise associated impacts to residents, such as exploring the benefits of creating parking restrictions during peak times and reducing the proposed turn lane length.
Traffic Signals 1 Comment	<p>Concerns over Southbound approach on Bennett Road in relation to heavy vehicle drivers, braking distances and traffic signal compliance</p> <p>Suggestion for the installation of flashing lights to provide adequate warning to heavy vehicle drivers.</p>	<p>The traffic signal manual mentions that flashing lights to advance warning where flashing lights are obscured by road geometry can be appropriate, however, they should be restricted to locations where they have the highest potential for crash reduction and provoke consistent driver reaction. Inclusion of advanced warning will be based on if sight and braking distances has been adequately catered for B-Doubles.</p> <p>RMS and Police will be required to enforce operational compliance issues, such as heavy vehicles intentionally and illegally running a red light.</p>
Noise & Vibration 3 Comments	Suggestions of the road being lowered and the creation of a solid barrier parallel to the back fences of houses along this road to lessen associated noise.	A noise and vibration assessment will be commissioned, and noise treatments will be provided in accordance with RMS Noise Mitigation Guidelines if properties meet the relevant threshold criteria.

Environmental Impacts	Suggestions for effective removal of waste water to be considered to cater for the absence of kerb and guttering along Erskine Park Road that may cause erosion on the embankment.	The erosion issue will be further investigated.
1 Comment		

4. Decision

Penrith City Council would like to thank everyone who took the time to consider our proposal and provide us with feedback.

We have considered the comments received and where practicable will incorporate feedback items into the detailed design.

5. Next Steps

Penrith City Council will finalise the detailed design for this project to facilitate construction commencement in 2018. The community will be kept informed as the project progresses.



November 2016

Have your say – Intersection improvements at Erskine Park Road

The Australian Government is funding a \$200 million Local Roads Package as part of the Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan. Funding has now been allocated for Penrith City Council to improve road safety and traffic flow efficiency at key intersections along Erskine Park Road.

The project is now progressing to final design. Council is inviting community feedback on the concept design and Review of Environmental Factors for the project.

Key features of the proposed upgrade

- Erskine Park Road and Bennett Road – upgrade the intersection and install new traffic signals
- Erskine Park Road and Peppertree Drive – upgrade the existing intersection to a new seagull intersection
- Erskine Park Road and Coonawarra Drive – upgrade the existing intersection to a new seagull intersection
- Erskine Park Road & Explorers Way – upgrade the intersection and install new traffic signals
- Erskine Park Road between Coonawarra Drive and Bennett Road – upgrade to four lane median separated dual carriageway (two lanes in each direction) and a new shared user path

At the completion of the Erskine Park Road Upgrade, Erskine Park Road will be widened to a four lane dual carriageway between Bennett Road and Explorers Way to join the existing four lane sections towards the M4 Motorway and Swallow Drive.

The upgrade will significantly improve road safety and traffic efficiency

What are the next steps?

- Council is currently inviting community feedback
- Detailed Design starting early 2017
- Construction starting late 2017

PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL

The community will be kept informed as the project progresses.



Public exhibition

To view the proposed upgrades go to <http://yoursaypenrith.com.au/our-future-penrith>.

Also available in hard copy at the Penrith City, St Marys and St Clair libraries.

Further information regarding the Australian Government's Local Roads Package can be found on the RMS website <http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/sydney-west/local-roads-package/index.html>

How can you give feedback?

We encourage you to send us your comments by Friday 23rd of December 2016.

WSIP@penrith.city or:

Design and Projects, Erskine Park Road Upgrade

Penrith City Council

PO Box 60

Penrith NSW 2751

We will carefully consider your feedback and continue to keep you updated as the proposal progresses.

Contact

Having issues or have a question?

Please contact the Have Your Say team on 02 4732 7402 or WSIP@penrith.city

PENRITH
CITY COUNCIL

Appendix B – Distribution Area

