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# Display of the Katoomba to Mount Victoria safety upgrade Review of Environmental Factors

February 2016

A Review of Environmental Factors has been prepared for a safety upgrade of the Great Western Highway between Katoomba and Mount Victoria. You are now invited to provide feedback on the safety upgrade design and proposed changes to the road network until **Thursday 3 March**.

## Background

The Australian and NSW governments have provided \$250 million to improve safety and road conditions along the Great Western Highway between Katoomba and Lithgow.

A number of projects are underway including an upgrade of the highway at Forty Bends and safety upgrades in the Hartley Valley and Mount Victoria village. The remaining funding will be used for the proposed safety upgrades between Katoomba and Mount Victoria.

We consulted with you about options for the road safety upgrade between Katoomba and Mount Victoria in 2014. We have now finalised the concept design and Review of Environmental Factors.

## Current situation

An updated road design has been completed and we have prepared the environmental impact assessment for public comment.

Key features of the safety upgrade include:

- Painting a central median up to 1.2 metres wide where possible
- Installing two metre wide shoulders where possible

- Providing dedicated right turn and/or left turn lanes at a number of intersections
- Changing access to left in/left out only at some intersections
- Installing safety barriers near road side hazards
- Relocating some lane merges to safer locations
- Installing raised line marking in rural areas
- Improving pedestrian access and safety in some sections.

We have made some changes to the design following consultation with the community in 2014. These include:

- Upgrading the intersection of Nellies Glen Road by providing a safer left turn onto the highway
- Restricting right turns out of Prince George Street
- Providing left in/left out and right in/right out access, and a dedicated right turn lane, at the Gardiner Crescent intersection
- Left turn in only at the western end of Radiance Avenue (service road access).

The upgrade has been divided into five sections and will be delivered in order of priority. We have provided a map to help explain the proposed changes.

## Summary of potential issues

The Review of Environmental Factors identifies areas of potential impact on the environment and how those impacts would be mitigated and managed to achieve a safer road. Some of the key environmental factors considered include:

- Some tree removal on the Great Western Highway in the following locations:
  - Bellevue Crescent intersection in Medlow Bath
  - Between Evans Lookout Road and Sutton Park, east of Blackheath
  - Between Hargraves and Abbott streets, in front of the St Mounts Hotel in Blackheath
  - Govetts Leap Road intersection in Blackheath
  - Radiance Avenue, west of Blackheath
- Eight on-street parking spaces would be removed from the westbound side of the highway in the Blackheath Village as part of the Govetts Leap Road intersection upgrade
- Relocation of the Medlow Bath bus stop 50 metres to the east. The bus stop mural would be retained as part of this relocation
- Construction impacts including noise, visual appearance, traffic access and parking
- Visual changes with wider sealed shoulders.

A tree management plan (Appendix J) has been developed and identifies specific details including the number of trees to be removed, and proposed tree planting and landscaping work to reduce the impact of tree loss.

Construction management plans would be implemented if the proposal was approved to minimise the potential impacts of noise, visual appearance, traffic access and parking.

## Community consultation

The Review of Environmental Factors is available for review at [www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/western-nsw/katoomba-lithgow](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/western-nsw/katoomba-lithgow) and at the following locations from **3 February until 3 March 2016**:

- **Blackheath Library, Great Western Highway**  
Open Monday and Thursday, from 10am to 2pm  
Tuesday and Friday, from 1pm to 5pm  
Saturday, from 9am to 12pm  
(closed Wednesday and Sunday)
- **Blue Mountains Council office**  
2-6 Civic Place, Katoomba  
Open Monday to Friday, between 8.30am and 5pm.

## Community information sessions

We would like to hear from you about the proposal and the Review of Environmental Factors. Please come along to one of the drop-in sessions at:

- **Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre, on the corner of Gardiner Crescent and the Great Western Highway**  
On Monday 15 February, from 6.30pm to 8.30pm and on Tuesday 16 February, from 1pm to 4pm.

- **Medlow Bath rural fire shed on Railway Parade**  
On Tuesday 16 February, from 6pm to 8pm.

Members of the project team will be available to answer questions and explain the details of the safety upgrade.

## Have your say

We welcome your feedback by **Thursday 3 March 2016**. Please provide your comments via the enclosed form or email the project team at [K2Lupgrade@rms.nsw.gov.au](mailto:K2Lupgrade@rms.nsw.gov.au).

## Next steps

We will consider all comments in finalising the proposal and design and will continue to liaise with the community throughout the project. Following the display of the Review of Environmental Factors, Roads and Maritime will prepare a community consultation report to respond to matters the community and stakeholders raised during the display.



## For more information



1800 035 733 (toll free)



[K2Lupgrade@rms.nsw.gov.au](mailto:K2Lupgrade@rms.nsw.gov.au)



K2L Great Western Highway upgrade  
PO Box 1406, Lane Cove, NSW 1595



<http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/>

# What are the proposed safety upgrades?

## SECTION E

- Installing two metre wide sealed road shoulders
- Painting a central median up to 1.2 metres wide at eastern end
- Painting a traffic island at the exit/entry and improved lane line marking at Mt Boyce Heavy Vehicle Checking Station
- Extending painted road markings on the shoulder area before entry to Browntown Oval.

## SECTION D

- Installing safety barriers next to roadside hazards
- Relocating lane merges to safer locations
- Installing double white lines to prevent overtaking where there are no overtaking lanes
- Installing two metre wide sealed road shoulder where possible
- Painting a central median from one to 1.2 metres wide on approaches to the Blackheath township
- Providing a safer footpath on the northern side of the highway

**Brightlands Avenue** - Left in/left out only

**Chelmsford Street** - Left in/left out only

**Sutton Park** - Dedicated right turn lane

**Hargraves Street** - Dedicated right turn lane

**Jellicoe Street** - Closing street access from the highway (access via Abbott Street)

**Abbott Street and Prince George Street** - Dedicated right turn lanes and a left turn lane into Abbott Street.

No right turn would be provided from Prince George Street

**Leichhardt Street** - Left in/left out only

**Govetts Leap Road/Bundurra Street** - Installing dedicated left and right turn lanes together with a through travel lane in both directions at the Govetts Leap Road intersection. Eight on-street parking spaces would be removed from the westbound side of the highway, west of the intersection. We have provided a graphic below to help explain the layout of this intersection

**Gardiner Crescent** - Left in/left out and right in/right out access, including a dedicated rightturn lane

**Hat Hill Road** - Dedicated right turn lane

**Stuart Street** - Left in/left out only

**Blackheath Cemetery** - Dedicated right turn lane

**Radiance Avenue and Sunbeam Avenue** - Left in/left out and right in/right out access to the service road that connects Sunbeam Avenue and Radiance Avenue to the Great Western Highway.

## SECTION C

- Relocating an overtaking lane merge to a safer location
- Installing two metre wide sealed road shoulders where possible
- Painting a central median up to 1.2 metres wide
- Upgrading line marking to improve visibility of traffic lanes and installing raised line marking in rural sections
- Realigning sections of the road to straighten some curves
- Installing safety barriers next to roadside hazards.

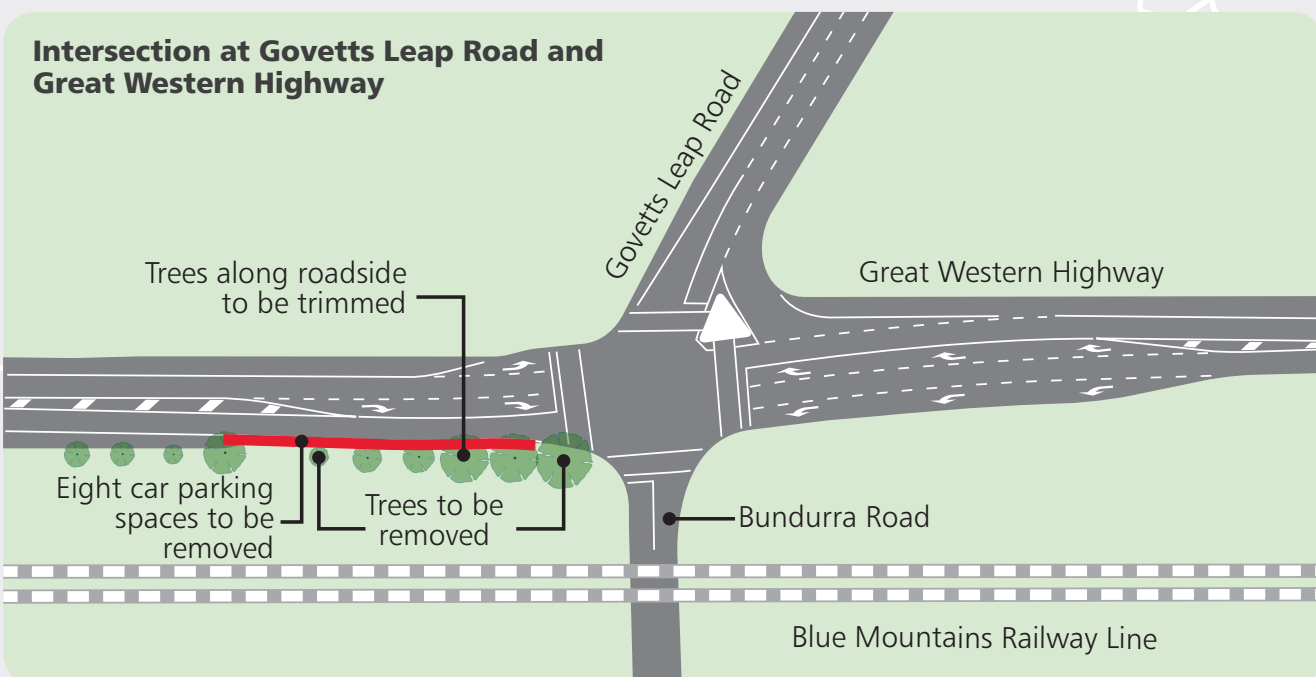
## LEGEND

- Widened sealed road shoulders (both directions)
- Wide painted central median
- Road realignment
- Intersection improvement
- Relocation of lane merge
- Installation of pipes instead of open drainage
- Bus stop and pedestrian refuge relocation
- Rail

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### Intersection at Govetts Leap Road and Great Western Highway



## SECTION B

- Relocating an overtaking lane merge to a safer location
- Relocating a bus stop at the rail station further east
- Two metre wide sealed road shoulders where possible
- Painting a central median up to 1.2 metres wide and painted edge line to improve visibility of traffic lanes and nearby parking
- Installing pipes at the open drainage channel next to the United Petrol station
- Improving access at the United Petrol station
- Moving pedestrian refuges to safer locations.

**Bellevue Crescent** - dedicated right turn lane

## SECTION A

- Relocating lane merges to safer locations
- Installing pipes at the open drainage channel near the Explorers Tree Memorial
- Installing a barrier around Explorers Tree Memorial and safety barriers next to roadside hazards
- Installing two metre wide sealed road shoulders where possible
- Painting a central median up to 1.2 metres wide
- Upgrading line marking and installing raised line marking in rural sections.

**Nellies Glen Road** - providing a safer left turn onto the highway

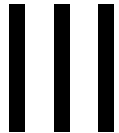


To mail this feedback form fold along the dotted line and seal with clear tape.  
Mail your completed form (no stamp required) to address below.

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LANE COVE NSW 1595

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K2L Great Western Highway Upgrade  
Reply Paid 87115  
LANE COVE NSW 1595

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