Parramatta Light Rail is one of the State Government’s major public transport projects in Western Sydney, being delivered as part of a record $73 billion infrastructure program across NSW. Parramatta Light Rail Stage 1 will connect Westmead to Carlingford via Parramatta CBD and Camellia with a two-way track spanning 12 kilometres. Stage 1 will provide access to light rail for an estimated 130,000 people within walking distance of light rail stops by 2026, increasing to 180,000 by 2041, more than half the population in the area.

Benefits of light rail in Westmead

- Regular, on-time and reliable connectivity between Westmead Station, Westmead Hospital, the Children’s Hospital at Westmead and other critical health services in the Westmead Health Precinct.
- Connection between education precincts in Westmead, Parramatta CBD and Rydalmere.
- Modern and comfortable air-conditioned vehicles, 45m long and driver-operated, carrying up to 300 customers, the equivalent of six buses.
- High frequency ‘turn-up-and-go’ services seven days a week from 5am to 1am.
Light rail stops in Westmead Precinct

- Westmead Hospital
- The Children’s Hospital at Westmead
- Parramatta Park
- Western Sydney University Westmead
- Parramatta Interchange
- Robin Thomas Reserve
- Parramatta North Urban Transformation Program
- Western Sydney University CBD
- St Patrick’s Roman Catholic Cemetery
- Western Sydney Stadium

Key:
- Stage 1 preferred alignment
- Platforms
- Light rail stops
- Train station
- Bus interchange
Features of light rail in Westmead

The Parramatta Light Rail terminus (Westmead Station) will be located on the eastern side of Hawkesbury Road near the intersection of Railway Parade. This stop will serve as the main interchange between other modes of transport for the Westmead Precinct, and provide access for the Western Sydney University Westmead campus. There will be provision for integration with the existing adjacent commercial buildings along Hawkesbury Road and Railway Parade.

The light rail will travel along Hawkesbury Road past Westmead Hospital and The Children’s Hospital at Westmead before turning right into Hainsworth Street and left into the Cumberland Hospital campus, before crossing the Parramatta River into the Parramatta North Urban Transformation area.

A new light rail bridge will be constructed over Parramatta River on Bridge Road, south of the existing bridge.

Light rail stops will be located at:
• Hawkesbury Road near Railway Parade (Interchange with rail and buses at Westmead Station).
• Westmead Hospital.
• The Children’s Hospital at Westmead.

A new electrical substation to power light rail will be located near Westmead Station. An existing electrical substation near the proposed terminus will also be relocated within the terminus area. The substations will be fitted with an external façade to blend into local, urban environments.

Construction activities in Westmead

Construction activities in this precinct will be staged, and will form part of an overall project construction timeline. This will be determined by the contractor, consisting of the following elements:
• Relocation of services and utilities.
• Modifications to the surrounding road network.
• Construction of track infrastructure and light rail stops.
• Laying of new kerbs and footpaths.
• Construction of a new bridge across the Parramatta River. This bridge will be for light rail, pedestrians and cyclists.

Construction compound locations

A number of construction compound sites have been selected along the proposed alignment to support the construction of light rail.

Westmead Railway Station

A construction compound will be located on the corner of Railway Parade and Hawkesbury Road to the north of Westmead Railway Station. The compound will support construction activities proposed to be undertaken between Westmead Railway Station and the Cumberland Hospital Precinct.

The compound will be located at the site of the proposed Westmead Station stop. Access to the compound will be from Hawkesbury Road.

Hawkesbury Road

There will be a construction compound at the corner of Hawkesbury Road and Hainsworth Street. The compound will support construction activities proposed to be undertaken between Westmead Railway Station and the Cumberland Hospital Precinct.

Cumberland Hospital

A compound will be located within Cumberland Hospital Precinct (west) between the Willow and Jarrah cottages and the western bank of Parramatta River. The compound will support construction activities proposed to be undertaken within the Westmead Precinct and also to support construction of the new Parramatta North bridge.

The site layout will be configured to minimise tree impacts within the site; however some trees may require trimming to provide clearance for construction plant, equipment and laydown areas.

Traffic and pedestrian changes

The project will require construction work to take place within, or adjacent to, road corridors across the alignment temporarily affecting traffic access, bus alignments, cycleways and pedestrian movements. We will make every effort to minimise these impacts on all road users and the local community.

A Traffic Management Plan will be prepared in consultation with key stakeholders. Advanced notification of road closures will be provided with information on alternative traffic arrangements. Emergency vehicle access will be maintained during construction and when the light rail is operational.

A number of changes to bus services will be required to accommodate the construction and operation of light rail. Further details will be available closer to route changes being implemented.
The road network will be modified to accommodate the track infrastructure and construction works.
Parking

Parramatta Light Rail will take the equivalent of 25,000 cars off the road by 2041, resulting in 188,000 fewer car kilometres each day.

A majority of visitors and staff to the Westmead Health Precinct currently use private vehicles to access the site. With this figure at 76% and the precinct forecasted to grow, access and parking is unsustainable in the long term. Light rail running approximately every 7.5 minutes between 7am and 7pm will create a new way of travelling to the Westmead Health Precinct, decreasing the reliance on cars.

With stops located within close proximity to major health facilities and residential areas, it is not proposed to provide any additional commuter car parking at light rail stops.

During construction, on-street parking and loading zones along the project corridor will be affected to provide sufficient worksite width and to maximise the number of traffic lanes available. These changes will apply from the start of construction, and will be permanent in certain locations. Loading zones, accessible parking, taxi ranks and service vehicle zones impacted by the project will be relocated, where possible, to the permanent location proposed for these users in adjacent side streets.

How construction impacts will be minimised

The construction team will prepare a Construction Environment Management Plan, which will identify strategies to minimise impacts on residents, businesses, traffic and the environment during construction. This will include measures such as:

- Place Managers dedicated to the Westmead Precinct will be available to provide a single point of contact for those wanting to find out more about the project, including impacts of construction, and to ensure clear lines of communication.
- Place Managers will work with businesses to identify signage, parking, access and other measures to avoid disruption for customers and deliveries.
- Development of a Community Engagement Plan prior to the start of construction to identify impacts and strategies to minimise these impacts.
- Ensuring construction contractors are aware of potential impacts and committed to deliver construction methodologies that are known to reduce impacts.
- Installing noise barriers around construction compounds, where feasible.
- Implementing dust suppression measures.
- Conducting property condition surveys prior to starting construction to provide peace of mind to neighbouring property owners.
- Providing a 24 hour construction contact line.
- Ensuring designated routes are used for construction vehicle access.
- Providing parking for workers within compounds as far as feasible.
How will my business be supported during construction?

We will work closely with businesses to minimise any impacts. The project team is already talking to the business community to understand how they operate and will continue this engagement before and during the construction.

The project team will also work with a number of organisations and agencies including the Transport for NSW Sydney Coordination Office and the City of Parramatta to assist with business activation, targeted initiatives and other key tasks to manage impacts on businesses.

As part of its Business Connect program, the NSW Department of Industry will appoint advisers to help businesses during what will be a period of change. Information on this program can be found at www.smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au

Have your say

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Parramatta Light Rail Stage 1 is on exhibition between 23 August and 23 October 2017. The EIS outlines the design of the project and some of the associated environmental and social impacts that could arise during construction and operation. This is your chance to have your say about this project.

The full EIS and its accompanying documents may be viewed on the Department of Planning and Environment’s website: www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au

Find out more at www.parramattalightrail.nsw.gov.au