



Parramatta Light Rail – Stage 1

Frequently asked questions

Q. What is the preferred Parramatta Light Rail route?

A. Parramatta Light Rail Stage 1 will connect Parramatta and Westmead to Carlingford via Camellia with 12 kilometres of dual track in a dedicated corridor. It will connect Parramatta's CBD to the key areas being transformed by the NSW Government and private investment, including the Westmead Health Precinct, Urban Growth NSW's Parramatta North Urban Transformation Program, the Camellia Precinct, the Telopea Urban Renewal, and Western Sydney University campuses at Westmead, Rydalmere and Parramatta CBD.

Q. What else is along the preferred route?

A. Light Rail is at the core of the planning within a number of important precincts and the project team is continuing to work with the community and precinct owners to create great places. Light Rail will create an attractive pedestrian friendly boulevard for the hospital precinct in Hawkesbury Road, Westmead with connections to Parramatta Park, CBD and Parramatta North. It will also be the main mode of access for the urban renewal of the Parramatta North heritage precinct and create new urban spaces in Church Street and Macquarie Street Parramatta. A light rail stop at the edge of Parramatta Square will be part of the city's vibrant new civic square with pedestrian links to Parramatta Station and the river. Light rail will also replace the Carlingford Line

between Carlingford and Camellia with a two-way track featuring regular services. Major attractions also include the new Western Sydney Stadium, new schools including the redeveloped Arthur Phillip High School, and Rosehill Racecourse.

Q. When will Parramatta Light Rail construction begin and when will it open?

A. It is expected that construction for Stage 1 will begin in 2018 and be completed by 2023 for operations to commence. Transport for NSW is working on a Final Business Case for the project which will confirm the project timescales.

Q. What are the key features of the project?

A. Key features of Stage 1 of the Parramatta Light Rail include 16 highly accessible stops, regular services from early morning to late at night, including services every 7.5 minutes throughout the day, integrated Opal ticketing, and modern and comfortable air-conditioned vehicles with a capacity of at least 250, and a system capacity to carry 10,000 people per hour during peak times and special events.

Q. How can I have my say on the preferred route?

A. In 2016, the Parramatta Light Rail team hosted more than 55 community information sessions, receiving valuable feedback on what people wanted from the project. More information sessions will be

held across the region in February, March and April 2017 to provide the community with an opportunity to learn more about the project, and share their views on issues including stop locations and names, light rail service frequency, and construction impacts for businesses. See website for details.

Q. How much will Parramatta Light Rail cost?

A. The NSW Government has allocated \$1 billion to the project from the Restart NSW and Rebuilding NSW funds. The project cost will be more than this allocation and will be confirmed during the project development phase. The Final Business Case will be completed in mid-2017.

Q. What is the progress of Stage 2 of the project?

A. The project is being delivered in stages to ensure the infrastructure needed to support the current growth of Greater Parramatta is in place and light rail is operating as soon as possible to support the thousands of new houses and jobs being created. Planning work for Stage 2 of the project – from Camellia to Strathfield via Sydney Olympic Park – is underway and is expected to be completed by the end of 2017. This planning is being done with other government agencies and transport projects including the newly announced Sydney Metro West with stops at Olympic Park and Parramatta.

Q. Will the project have an impact on parking or trees?

A. Parramatta Light Rail will make it easier for workers and residents to move around new and existing communities, and it will bring more visitors into the region. There are likely to be impacts on street parking and some trees across the network, including in and around Parramatta CBD. Transport for NSW will continue to work on ways to minimise the impacts on parking and trees during the design phase of the project, and will seek the views of the community during consultation.

Q. How will construction of the Parramatta Light Rail affect my business?

A. Transport for NSW is preparing a plan to ensure traffic and transport flows smoothly during and after construction of Stage 1 of the Parramatta Light Rail project. The project team will also engage directly with businesses along the route to provide information and assistance and answer questions about the impacts of construction and access. Transport for NSW and the project's delivery partner when appointed will develop local traffic management and access plans for deliveries in consultation with impacted business owners and managers.

Q. Are there plans to extend light rail to Epping?

A. An Epping extension study is being carried out in line with feedback from the community to explore options for this transport corridor.

Q. Will any private properties need to be acquired for light rail?

A. With a project of this scale it is inevitable that some acquisitions of property are needed. Light rail is designed to fit within existing road corridors, and whole or partial acquisition of property will only occur where this is not possible. Transport for NSW has allocated case managers to work directly with owners and tenants of properties that may be affected.

Q. How will property owners be compensated for property that needs to be acquired?

A. Transport for NSW is committed to treating anyone affected by acquisitions fairly and respectfully in line with the improved property acquisition process announced by the NSW Government in October 2016. Those members of the community being impacted directly by the preferred route have been contacted by members of the Parramatta Light Rail project team based in Parramatta, and we will continue to work closely with them as planning progresses. More information about the improved property acquisition process is available at: www.finance.nsw.gov.au

Q. How do I get to Sydney CBD using the Carlingford line when Parramatta Light Rail is open?

A. The single track of the Carlingford heavy rail line is being replaced with dual track light rail that provides more frequent services and better connections to town centres, including Parramatta and the Sydney CBD.

Q. How long will the Carlingford line be shut down once construction of light rail begins?

A. Train services between Camellia and Clyde will need to cease operation to enable construction and operation of Parramatta Light Rail. The timing of construction will be confirmed once a project delivery partner is appointed. During construction more frequent replacement bus services will operate from Carlingford via the existing stations at Telopea, Dundas, Rydalmere and Camellia to either Granville or Parramatta Stations. Customers will be provided with plenty of notice before the train services cease, as well as the exact route of buses, to minimise disruption to the community.