

What is a transport link?

A transport link is a strip of land used for transport infrastructure. The links are paths for any option of travel including passenger trains.

What is the North South Rail Line?

The North South Rail Line is a passenger rail line connecting St Marys with Macarthur. The line will run from the Main West Line / T1 Western Line to the Main South Line / T8 Airport and South Line.

Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport will run along the North South Rail Line between St Marys and the Aerotropolis. This passenger rail line will connect communities around St Marys with the Western Sydney International (Nancy- Bird Walton) Airport and the surrounding business areas (known as the Aerotropolis) and will become the transport spine for the region.

The North South Rail Line supports the NSW Government's vision of a 30-minute city by expanding the existing passenger rail network to connect people to their closest metropolitan and strategic centres.

The details of the rail line design, including station and tunnel locations, will be finalised after further engineering and design studies are done. These studies include land and soil condition investigation.

Further community consultation will be undertaken as the exact design of the infrastructure is finalised before construction.

What is the South West Rail Link Extension?

The South West Rail Link Extension will lengthen the existing passenger rail line from Leppington Station to North Bringelly so it connects with the North South Rail Line. This will provide a direct link to the Western Sydney Aerotropolis and surrounding business area.

We will consult the community regarding design aspects before construction begins on the passenger rail line.

Why are these important?

It has never been more important for NSW to stay connected. Planning for public transport infrastructure is important to ensure communities have access to a safe and reliable passenger rail when they need it. Planning for these future passenger rail services helps enable the NSW Government in achieving its 30 minute city vision.

A passenger rail service will link new residential areas and communities with jobs, essential services, educational opportunities and industries.

By 2056, the Western Parkland City will be home to over 1.5 million people. Combined with the new Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport and surrounding business area, effective public transport links are essential. These links will connect residents to jobs and allow the new city to be connected to the rest of the state, the new airport, and the world.

Planning for future rail lines to increase rail capacity is part of the broader vision of the NSW Government, identified in its Future Transport Strategy 2056, to meet the long term transport needs of Western and Greater Sydney.

What is corridor preservation?

Corridor preservation is the process to reserve land to build transport infrastructure including roads or train lines.

The corridor preservation process makes sure the land is available and can be built on, when the infrastructure is needed.

Corridor preservation is important when planning for the needs of growing communities and industries, to accommodate commuters, workers, businesses and industries who all rely on different types of transport modes. Planning the necessary future transport links now ensures that as NSW grows, communities will have access to transport.

In Western Sydney, new transport links are needed to serve new jobs, homes and growing industries around the Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport and surrounding business area. These transport links also serve as important connections to other regional centres in NSW, joining industries, communities and employment areas across the state.

FAQs

North South Rail Line and South West Rail Link Extension



How has the North South Rail Line and South West Rail Link Extension been confirmed?

The Corridors State Environmental Planning Policy will come into effect in the next few days. This when complete is known as 'gazettal' because it is a piece of legislation that appears in the NSW Government Gazette, which is the official record of all NSW Government legislation. Gazettal means that the use of land in this area has the force of law.

While Transport for NSW does not own the land, rezoning through the 'gazettal' gives Transport for NSW say over what private landowners can do with it, up until any future transport projects are constructed on that land.

Will North South Rail Line and South West Rail Link Extension affect me?

There is no immediate impact on how you use your property or land with the North South Rail Line and South West Rail Link Extension. Existing uses of your property or land can continue.

Any development proposed over \$200,000 will need to be referred to Transport for NSW for agreement.

Acquisition of your property is not needed by government until construction of transport infrastructure is needed, which could be years away.

Sydney Metro - Western Sydney Airport will be delivered between St Marys and the Aerotropolis, using the North South Rail Line alignment.

How have we consulted the community?

We first consulted with the community on the North South Rail Line and South West Rail Link in 2014 and 2015. Community consultation focused on a recommended corridor between Leppington, Bringelly and Narellan; a broader corridor between the Main West Line (T1 Western Line) near St Marys and Bringelly; and a study area between Narellan and the Main South Line (T8 Airport and South Line).

Transport for NSW met with landowners, held workshops with community groups and ran four community drop-in sessions during that time. We received more than 1560 community submissions as a result of these activities.

We held more community consultation activities between 26 March and 1 June 2018. This involved five community drop-in sessions, and meetings with landowners and interest groups.

We spoke with community, council, industry and other stakeholders during both consultation periods. This allowed for feedback and input into the final transport corridor route. Importantly, it helped identify and provide information about issues such as:

- impacts to local landscapes
- the need to protect local wildlife
- consideration of existing communities and homes
- transport planning and land use in the area
- land formation
- geography and soils
- Aboriginal and European heritage
- water bodies and areas prone to flooding
- impacts on amenities and property
- environmental and conservation areas, and
- existing utilities infrastructure.

The consultation period also included the opportunity for formal submissions from community and other stakeholders to provide written feedback regarding the North South Rail Line and the South West Rail Link Extension.

All feedback received from consultation activities in 2018 including 924 written submissions, have been reviewed for consideration and determination of both passenger rail lines.

What has changed since consultation?

After receiving valuable feedback from the community, the NSW Government has confirmed the following changes:

- Straightening of the North South Rail Line corridor in Orchard Hills between Lansdowne Road and Patons Lane to reduce property impacts
- Realignment of the North South Rail line corridor at Oran Park.

What's happened to my submission?

All submissions have been reviewed. Recommendations for changes to corridors were taken into consideration before the alignments were finalised. If you made a submission, a response will be sent to you.

What happens next?

The final recommended transport link is thoroughly evaluated and considered in a document called a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), which is reviewed by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE).

If DPIE supports the SEA, the Minister for Planning and Public Spaces then rezones the recommended transport link and the rezoning of the land has immediate effect.

FAQs

North South Rail Line and South West Rail Link Extension



Can I still provide feedback?

The period for formal feedback submissions closed on 1 June 2018. If you would like to speak to a member of the project team or have any questions about the North South Rail Line or South West Rail Link Extension, please email us at corridors@transport.nsw.gov.au or give us a call on **1800 837 511**. Alternatively, you may wish to write to us at **Corridor Investigation Office, Transport for NSW, PO BOX K659 Haymarket NSW 1240**.

How is impact on the environment being managed?

Transport for NSW is partnering with the DPIE to develop a conservation plan for Western Sydney. The plan will protect the region's threatened, native plants and animals. It will also support the needs of the community through the creation of green and public spaces.

The conservation plan for Western Sydney, which includes the Western Sydney corridors, is known as the Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan. This plan provides a holistic and coordinated government approach, allowing agencies to work together to protect biodiversity and meet requirements for offsetting in the proposed growth in Western Sydney. For more information on the conservation plan, visit planning.nsw.gov.au/cpcp

What is biodiversity offsetting?

Biodiversity offset refers to a planning process whereby biodiversity impacts are considered for trade-offs. These trade-offs may be imposed as a legislative or planning requirement on developers, infrastructure delivery partners or organisations who are disturbing biodiversity. The requirements are set out by relevant planning authorities; in NSW this is the DPIE. For more information, refer to the DPIE website: planning.nsw.gov.au/Policy-and-Legislation/Biodiversity

Write: Corridor Investigation Office
Transport for NSW
PO BOX K659
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