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Media Release - Major Facelift for the M2

Major construction works to remove six toll booths and introduce express tolling lanes at the M2's main toll plaza will be carried out from tomorrow (December 28th) until early February.

"The works will give the M2 a major facelift and improve travel times for Tag users. The project involves the removal of six toll booths and resurfacing 250 metres of the motorway, to give motorists a safer and smoother ride at motorway speeds through the main toll plaza", said Hills M2 Operations Manager, John Collier.

The works will involve the temporary closure of between two and three lanes at the main toll plaza. However, during peak hour at least four lanes will remain open.

"Once we remove the toll booths and boom gates motorists with a Tag will enjoy a quick and safe journey on the M2. They'll be able to travel through the main toll plaza at 80 kilometres an hour, without having to stop or slow down to pass through a boom gate. This project requires us to make substantial changes to the M2", said John Collier.

To minimise the impact on motorists, the demolition works are scheduled to commence during the quietest part of the year in the holiday period. Work will commence tomorrow (December 28th). Some delays at the main toll plaza are likely, particularly in January. To keep motorists informed, Transurban is undertaking a community information campaign which includes

- variable message signs on the M2 to update motorists on changed traffic conditions
- information to 250,000 local residents via letterbox drop
- advertisements in local newspapers
- outdoor billboard advertising

"I'm sure our customers appreciate that these improvements will deliver significant benefits. It's not easy to remove toll booths from a motorway that's used 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and we will try to minimise any inconvenience to motorists", said John Collier.

The project will involve

- demolition and removal of toll booths and boom gates from lanes 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11
- removal of 5 concrete barriers
- resurfacing 250 metres of motorway

When complete there will be four central express lanes - two in each direction at the main toll plaza. (*see artist impression attached*) Six cash booths (three in each direction) will be retained to the left of the main toll plaza.

At Pennant Hills Road, two toll booths (one each at entry and exit) will be replaced by fully electronic toll points, without boom gates. Two cash booths (one in each direction) will be retained at the Pennant Hills Road on and off ramps.

To take advantage of the move to express lanes, motorists can set up a Roam e-TAG® account now at roam.com.au, over the phone through 13 ROAM (13 76 26) or at most Australia Post Offices.

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