

Media Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

13 DECEMBER 2011

Upgrade hits the fast lane, new cashless third westbound lane through toll plaza and accelerated holiday road works

From tomorrow, some motorists will be able to take advantage of the first stage of the new third cashless westbound lane through the main toll plaza of the Hills M2 motorway at North Ryde.

“The opening of the short section of third cashless lane, means a greater opportunity for motorists to skip the queues bypassing the existing westbound cash lanes,” said a project spokesman.

“The cash lanes will be removed as part of the conversion of the motorway to fully cashless operations on 30 January 2012, however rather than wait, the team have ensured the new lane is open more than a month ahead of schedule.

“The new traffic arrangement will allow three lanes of westbound traffic to pass through the main toll plaza, with cash paying motorists still being able to access cash booths until 30 January.

“Hills M2, Roads and Maritime Services and the Transport Management Centre have also agreed a programme of additional works through the low traffic holiday period, ensuring the impacts of work can be minimised on the majority of road users.

Work in the Norfolk Tunnel will be undertaken during periods of low traffic from **7am, Tuesday 27 December to 9am, Saturday 31 December 2011** and from **7am, Tuesday 3 January to 5am, Monday 9 January 2012**.

“Traffic on the Hills M2 during late December and early January is typically 10 to 15 percent lower than the daily average through the year. This means the holiday period is an important opportunity to undertake roadwork while minimising impacts on motorists,” said a project spokesman.

“The project team will take advantage of the low traffic period to continue tunnel excavation work in the Norfolk Tunnel at Epping. During this roadwork there will be changes to normal traffic arrangements including the use of a tidal contra-flow lane through the Norfolk Tunnel, at least one lane in each direction will be open at all times.

“Major roadwork is planned across Sydney during January and will result in changes to normal travel conditions, motorists should plan ahead,” said a project spokesman.

No work will take place on the motorway during 23, 24, 25 (Christmas Day) and 26 (Boxing Day) December 2011 and 1 (New Years Day) and 2 January 2012. In the event of an emergency, such as a motor vehicle accident, repair work will be undertaken as required.

Fully electronic toll collection will commence on the Hills M2 and Eastern Distributor from 30 January. Motorists using the motorways from this date will be required to pay tolls using existing electronic tags or temporary pass products.

On-motorway cash payments will no longer be available from 30 January, so motorists without a valid payment arrangement, have up to 48 hours after their first trip to make an arrangement. Roam Express e-TAG and visitor's ePASS can be accessed from www.roamexpress.com.au or 13 76 26.

Further information regarding other tolling products can be access at www.sydneymotorways.com.

Hills M2 Upgrade

A team consisting of The Roads and Traffic Authority of NSW, the Hills Motorway Limited and Hills Motorway Management Limited (as trustee of the Hills Motorway Trust) Hills M2 Upgrade Locked Bag 2215 North Ryde BC NSW 1670

HillsM2 Upgrade



Traffic Changes:

- Work in the Norfolk Tunnel will take place from **7am, Tuesday 27 December to 9am, Saturday 31 December 2011** and from **7am, Tuesday 3 January to 5am, Monday 9 January 2012**.
- No work will take place on the motorway during 23, 24, 25 (Christmas Day) and 26 (Boxing Day) December 2011 and 1 (New Years Day) and 2 January 2012. In the event of an emergency, such as a motor vehicle accident, roadworks will be undertaken as required.
- No on-ramp or off-ramp closures will be in place during this roadwork.
- Bus services and emergency services will not be affected by the roadwork.

Media Contact: Peter Colacino 0407 193 463

Further information

For more information on the Hills M2 Upgrade, visit www.hillsm2upgrade.com.au or contact 1800 196 266 or via enquiries@hillsm2upgrade.com.au.

For up to date traffic information contact the Transport Management Centre at www.livetraffic.com or 132 701.

For up to date information on bus services contact 131 500 or your bus service provider Hillsbus (02) 9890 0000 or Busways - (02) 9625 8900.

Hills M2 Upgrade

A team consisting of The Roads and Traffic Authority of NSW, the Hills Motorway Limited and Hills Motorway Management Limited (as trustee of the Hills Motorway Trust) Hills M2 Upgrade Locked Bag 2215 North Ryde BC NSW 1670