

Media Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

16 January 2012

Two weeks until Hills M2 cashless

The operators of the Hills M2 and Eastern Distributor have reminded motorists of the start of fully electronic toll collection on the motorways from 30 January.

"The end of cash collection will mean simpler, safer and faster journey for millions of motorists each year on these motorways," said Head of the Hills M2, Craig Greene.

"The conversion will commence from one minute past midnight on the morning of Monday 30 January so motorists will need to plan ahead.

"We have scheduled the conversion for the Monday to avoid impacts on holidaymakers who may not be regular motorway users returning from a break.

"The conversion to cashless toll collection will help to reduce congestion and improve travel times on the motorway by removing the need to queue at cash booths, lifting sign-posted speeds through toll collection points and reducing merging and weaving by cash booths.

Cashless, or fully electronic toll collection, will deliver a significant enhancement to both motorways and follows the conversion of the Harbour Bridge in 2009 and the Harbour Tunnel in 2007.

The Hills M2 links motorists to Westlink M7 and the Lane Cove Tunnel, both of which have operated fully electronic since opening in 2005 and 2007 respectively.

"Motorists planning to travel on the Hills M2 or the Eastern Distributor after midnight on 29 January will no longer be able to pay their toll with cash on the motorway," said Mr Greene.

"A number of pre-paid and post tolling products are available, making payment quick and simple. Motorists can contact Roam Express within 48 hours of their first trip on either motorway in order to arrange payment of their tolls."

Motorists will be able to pay tolls using existing e-TAG and visitor's ePASS products, available up to 48 hours after their first trip from www.roamexpress.com.au or 13 76 26.

"Motorists should expect minor changes to normal traffic conditions on both motorways. These changes will involve lane realignments so motorists are advised to plan ahead, drive with care and follow the signs," said Mr Greene.

"Work to remove the existing toll plazas will occur over coming months including the removal of the toll booths and the toll plaza canopies."

An interim arrangement involving changed traffic conditions will be in place on the Hills M2 during the construction of the Hills M2 Upgrade. Reduced speed limits (60km/h) and changes to normal lane configurations remain in place until early 2013. Following the completion of the upgrade, the Hills M2 main toll point will be realigned and sign posted at 100km/h.

Further information

For more information on tolling products including e-TAGs and visitor's ePASSes, contact www.roamexpress.com.au or 13 76 26, or www.sydneymotorways.com

For more information on the Hills M2 Upgrade, visit www.hillsm2.com.au or www.hillsm2upgrade.com.au or contact 1800 196 266 or via enquiries@hillsm2upgrade.com.au.

For more information on the Eastern Distributor, visit www.easterndistributor.com.au or call 8356 2200

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

Media Contact: Peter Colacino 0407 193 463