

## Media Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

27 January 2012

### **Hills M2 Upgrade removal of Beecroft Road bus ramp in February**

A major milestone of the \$550m Hills M2 Upgrade will take place in February with the removal of the existing Beecroft Road bus ramp to allow the construction of the third lanes in each direction in the section between Norfolk Tunnel and Pennant Hills Road.

“The removal of the bus ramp is essential works that will enable the speed limit to be returned to 100km/h following completion of the upgrade,” said a project spokesperson.

“Work to remove the bus ramp will occur between 8pm Friday and 5am Monday from Friday 10 February 2012 and continuing for three consecutive weekends.”

A contra flow arrangement will be in place under Beecroft Road Bridge and through the Norfolk Tunnel at Epping. One lane will remain open in each direction from 8pm on Friday until 5am on Monday.

“Due to nature of the work it is not possible for traffic to be maintained beneath the bus ramp bridge during removal so the Beecroft Road off-ramp will be closed and a contra-flow arrangement will be in place,” said a project spokesman.

“Some additional ramps will be closed to reduce vehicles on the motorway and the speed limit will be reduced to 40km/h in the work zones.

“Other motorway upgrade work will be ongoing during these periods, including work at Devlins Creek Bridge, Norfolk Tunnel and west of the Terry’s Creek Bridge to take advantage of the reduced demand for use of the motorway due to the ramp closures associated with the removal of the Beecroft Bus ramp.

“Motorists are encouraged to plan their journey, allow extra travel time and consider using alternative routes such as Epping, Carlingford and Pennant Hills roads.

“The removal of the bus ramp is essential to enable the construction of the motorway’s additional lane in both directions in a highly constrained location between the Norfolk Tunnel, Devlins Creek, CityRail’s Northern Rail Line and nearby properties, including Epping Heights Public School.

The work will take place in two phases, the bus ramp deck and bridge piers over the motorway will be dismantled and removed. The reinforced earth ramp in the centre of the motorway will then be removed.

The Beecroft Road bus ramp was closed to buses in January 2011 to allow upgrade works on the existing Beecroft Rd Bridge. It has served as a site compound, access road and work space for the Beecroft Road overbridge works.

**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](http://www.roamexpress.com.au) or 13 76 26.**

**Further information regarding other tolling products can be access at [www.sydneymotorways.com](http://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

## Traffic changes for Beecroft bus ramp removal:

- One carriageway will be closed and traffic will be diverted to the opposite carriageway under Beecroft Road Bridge for up to four consecutive weekends:
  - 8pm Friday, 10 February to 5am Monday 13 February 2012
  - 8pm Friday, 17 February to 5am Monday 20 February 2012
  - 8pm Friday, 24 February to 5am Monday 27 February 2012
  - A contingency date will be provided from 8pm Friday 2 March – 5am Monday 5 March
- **One lane will be available in each direction during the work.**
- The westbound Beecroft Road **off-ramp** will be closed from 8pm Friday 10 February to 5am Monday 13 February - for one weekend only.
- Motorway **on-ramps** will be closed, as required, between 8am and 7pm Saturdays and Sundays, including:
  - The citybound Beecroft Road on-ramp
  - The citybound Pennant Hills Road on-ramp
  - The westbound Herring Road on-ramp
  - The westbound Lane Cove Road on-ramps
- **Bus services and emergency services will not be affected** by the road work and will be provided access to motorway on-ramps during closures.

**Media Contact: Juliana Stackpool 0400 059 982**

## Further information

For more information on the Hills M2 Upgrade, visit [www.hillsm2upgrade.com.au](http://www.hillsm2upgrade.com.au) or contact 1800 196 266 or via [enquiries@hillsm2upgrade.com.au](mailto:enquiries@hillsm2upgrade.com.au).

For up to date traffic information contact the Transport Management Centre at [livetraffic.com](http://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.

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