The Australian and NSW governments are upgrading The Northern Road as a part of the $4.1 billion Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan to improve safety, increase road capacity and reduce travel times and congestion in the future.

The Northern Road upgrade between Mersey Road and Glenmore Parkway covers about 16 kilometres and will provide access to Western Sydney International Airport at Badgerys Creek and the growth areas of South West and Western Sydney. The project is being constructed in three stages. The project was fully approved in June 2018 and Roads and Maritime Services has now awarded major construction contracts for all three stages.

Georgiou has partnered with Ertech on the Northern Road upgrade project, between Mersey Road, Bringelly and Eaton Road, Luddenham for Roads and Maritime Services (RMS), valued at more than $120 million.

Spanning 5.7km, Work in this Section Includes:
- the diversion and widening of the Northern Road between Mersey Road and Eaton Road around the site of the Western Sydney Airport;
- a left in/left out intersection at Dwyer Road;
- a u-turn controlled with traffic lights for access to the Leppington Pastoral Company;
- new traffic lights at the service entrance to Western Sydney Airport;
- new traffic lights at the T-intersection with the bypassed Northern Road (north of Eaton Road);
- a left in/left out intersection for Eaton Road (East);
- cyclist and pedestrian facilities; and
- related works including relocation of utilities.

Delivered as a 50:50 joint venture, the project will improve safety, increase road capacity and reduce future congestion and travel times.

Works began in September 2018 and continue through to 2021, with 120 personnel at peak.

The upgrade is a part of the Federal Government’s $3.6B Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan, and is needed to bypass the western airport site at Badgerys Creek.
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Scope of works include the diversion and widening of The Northern Road between Mersey Road, Bringelly and Eaton Road, Luddenham, construction of turning and bus priority lanes and a three-metre wide off-road shared path for pedestrians and cyclists.

Incoming Chief Executive Officer Robert Monaci said Georgiou was thrilled to secure another Roads and Maritime contract on The Northern Road.

“Having recently delivered the upgrade of The Northern Road between The Old Northern Road and Peter Brock Drive, we look forward to partnering with Ertech on this stage and delivering another vital piece of NSW infrastructure to the community,” he said.

Delivered under a 50:50 joint venture, the project will improve safety, increase road capacity and reduce future congestion and travel times.

Construction, which will employ 120 at peak, will commence in the third quarter of 2018 with expected completion in 2021.

Progress So Far Includes:
- archaeological investigations
- installing concrete barriers along the roadway to create a safe work space behind the barriers
- setting up the main site compound on Eaton Road
- building two temporary roundabouts on The Northern Road at Bringelly and Luddenham to provide safe entry into construction compounds
- major earthwork to level the ground for the future road around the new airport site
- building new stormwater drainage.

Key Features
- Constructing around 5.7 kilometres of a new four lane divided road with median, diverting the existing The Northern Road around the site of the Western Sydney International Airport.
- A left in/left out intersection at Dwyer Road.
- New traffic lights and u-turn controlled lights for access to the Leppington Pastoral Company and service entry to the Western Sydney International Airport.
- New traffic lights for the western entry to the Western Sydney International Airport.
- New traffic lights at the t-intersection with The Old Northern Road, north of Eaton Road.
- A left in/left out intersection for Eaton Road (East).
- Bus priority lanes at all traffic lights.

The Northern Road upgrade will deliver new and upgraded roads to support integrated transport in the region and capitalise on the economic benefits from developing the Western Sydney Airport at Badgerys Creek. It will also improve safety, increase road capacity and reduce congestion and travel times in the future.

The Northern Road upgrade between Mersey Road, Bringelly, and Glenmore Parkway, Glenmore Park covers about 16 kilometres and will divert The Northern Road around the Western Sydney Airport site and around Luddenham town centre.

The project will be delivered in three sections from:
- Mersey Road to Eaton Road
- Eaton Road to Littlefields Road
- Littlefields Road to Glenmore Parkway.

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Project Benefits
The benefits of the proposed The Northern Road upgrade between Mersey Road, Bringelly and Glenmore Parkway, Glenmore Park include:

- improved transport connections between Penrith, the M4 Motorway, the Western Sydney Airport and surrounding developments
- increased road capacity for future growth and development
- improved access for construction and operation of the Western Sydney Airport
- improved public transport by providing bus priority at intersections and dedicated bus lanes north of Bradley Street
- improved safety for pedestrians and cyclists by providing a new shared path
- improved alignment of the road
- improved street lighting at all intersections
- improved traffic efficiency for road users.

Improved safety for all road users by:

- installing traffic lights at some intersections
- building a central median to separate opposing traffic flows
- providing turning lanes at some intersections

Project Inclusions
The project includes:

- a minimum of two general traffic lanes in each direction between Mersey Road, Bringelly and just south of Glenmore Parkway, Glenmore Park
- a wide central median to allow for an extra travel lane in each direction in the future, if required
- bus priority measures at all intersections and dedicated bus lanes to serve existing communities north of Bradley Street, Glenmore Park
- provision to extend bus lanes as growth and service demand requires
- about eight kilometres of new road between Mersey Road, Bringelly and just south of the existing Elizabeth Drive, Luddenham to realign the section of The Northern Road that currently runs through the Western Sydney International Airport site and to bypass the Luddenham town centre
- about eight kilometres of upgraded and widened road between the existing Elizabeth Drive, Luddenham and just south of Glenmore Parkway, Glenmore Park
- access to the Luddenham town centre from north of the realigned The Northern Road and the existing The Northern Road
- four new traffic light intersections and new traffic lights at existing intersections
- local road changes and upgrades to current access arrangements for businesses and private properties
- a new shared path on the western side of The Northern Road and pedestrian paths on the eastern side of The Northern Road where required.

Subcontractors and Suppliers

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Roads and Maritime Services has awarded the contract to deliver upgrades to an 18-kilometres stretch of the Newell Highway, south of Boggabilla in New South Wales.

Fulton Hogan will deliver the $94 million Newell Highway – Mungle Back Creek To Boggabilla project, which involves re-surfacing, widening the highway’s lanes to 3.5 metres-wide in each direction and providing wider road shoulders, intersection improvements and two new overtaking lanes.

The Australian and NSW governments have committed funding to upgrade the Newell Highway between Mungle Back Creek and Boggabilla in Northern NSW. This will improve safety for motorists and reduce future maintenance requirements.

The project includes major work on 18 kilometres of new road pavement, 3.5 metre wide lanes in each direction, intersection improvements, widening of road shoulders and provision of two new overtaking lanes.

Updates and Announcements

Work started in November 2018 and is progressing well with traffic being switched onto a new 1.3 kilometre section of highway. The milestone includes an upgrade to the largest intersection on the project, where the road has been widened to accommodate large trucks and a new dedicated turning lane, travelling south into Letterbox Road complete.

The upgrade will also include a one metre wide centre line to allow more room between vehicles, and improve safety along this important section of road, which is known for being narrow and uneven.

Roads and Maritime awarded the construction contract for this major project to Fulton Hogan Construction Pty Ltd, in August 2018. The project is part of the $229 million Federal Government’s National Highway Upgrade Program and the New South Wales Government’s $500 million Newell Highway Fund.

The Australian Government has also committed $2 million for the development of a Newell Highway Corridor Strategy. The strategy aims to identify priority upgrades on the Newell Highway to increase freight productivity, improve safety and support the economic growth of communities along the corridor.

Improved safety and freight transport productivity are on the cards for the Moree Plains Shire, with the start of the $122 million Newell Highway upgrade project, south of Boggabilla.

Northern Tablelands MP Adam Marshall turned the first sod of soil on the project, which is officially the largest roads project in NSW west of Great Dividing Range.

He said both State and Commonwealth Governments were investing $61 million each in the road upgrade, which would see 18 kilometres of the Newell completely replaced and upgraded between Mungle Back Creek and Boggabilla, for the first time since 1973.

“This is a massive road project, the likes of which our region hasn’t seen for around four decades,” Mr Marshall said. “It’s going to take three years to complete it as the whole highway will eventually be dug up and replaced with a new road surface that’s wider, stronger, has a one-metre dividing line and two new overtaking lanes.”

Mr Marshall said the works would provide a vital economic boost to communities along the route.

“This is a great example of the NSW and Australian governments working together to improve productivity and make roads in the bush safer for truckies and farmers,” Mr Marshall said.

“By reducing travel times and maintenance costs, the upgrade will benefit not just heavy vehicle operators but all motorists.”

“Our region relies on the highway to move products from paddock to plate.

“The Newell is a major road link between Queensland and Victoria and this upgrade will improve freight efficiency and reliability. The upgrade will reduce travel times and maintenance costs as well as improve the reliability of this critical freight route.”

Project Benefits

- Increase travel reliability between Mungle Back Creek and Boggabilla
- Reduce travel times and the cost of maintenance along the Newell Highway
- Improve road safety for road users
- Provide a new road surface to meet the existing and

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future freight needs along this section of the Newell Highway.
• Improve the Newell Highway flood immunity where feasible and reasonable
• Support regional and local economic development.

Project Features
The upgrade of the Newell highway between Mungle Back Creek and Boggabilla would include:
• provide a new road surface
• widen the existing highway or construct a new two lane highway adjacent to the existing highway
• provide dedicated overtaking lanes
• upgrade intersections
• improve access to private property
• provide road delineation, sign posting and roadside furniture
• upgrade drainage to improve the Newell Highway flood immunity when feasible and reasonable.

Project Objectives
The project objectives are to:
• increase travel reliability and reduce travel times on the Newell Highway
• reduce vehicle operating costs on the Newell Highway
• reduce the costs of maintaining the Newell Highway
• improve the safety of the Newell Highway
• improve freight efficiency.

Other Supporting Objectives are to:
• ensure route development meets the standards required of the National Land Transport Network
• develop a proposal that contributes to the economic development of the region and improves transport efficiency on this section of the Newell Highway in terms of travel time and vehicle operating costs
• ensure that all potential impacts of the proposal on the local community are assessed and appropriate mitigation measures are developed
• ensure broad road safety objectives are met by reducing the crash rate along the Newell Highway
• ensure an adequate level of service for existing and predicted traffic volumes
• ensure route development minimises the impact on environmentally sensitive areas and that appropriate mitigation measures are included in the proposal to manage any impact
• ensure stakeholder involvement in all phases of the proposal development

• ensure compatibility of the road network and the long-term land use planning for the area.

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