

# Wakehurst Parkway Flood Improvements

## Fact sheet - November 2023

### Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional owners of this land and elders past, present and future.  
We recognise Aboriginal people as the original custodians of the Northern Beaches.

**Wakehurst Parkway, is a state-owned arterial road running through Narrabeen, Oxford Falls, Frenchs Forest, and North Balgowlah and is a vital transport link for Sydney's Northern Beaches.**

Sections of the parkway north of Warringah Road are prone to flooding and can be closed following heavy rainfall.

Both Northern Beaches Council and Transport for NSW have significant projects planned for Wakehurst Parkway, and are working together to improve the corridor.

Northern Beaches Council's project aims to reduce the frequency of flooding at four locations - Oxford Falls Road West, Wakehurst Parkway at Oxford Falls, The Bends, and the Sydney Academy of Sport.

The Transport for NSW project will improve sections of Wakehurst Parkway between Frenchs Forest Road and Pittwater Road in North Narrabeen, with a focus on safety and capacity.

### Benefits

Both the Council and Transport for NSW projects will provide crucial improvements to Wakehurst Parkway, including:

- ✓ less flooding
- ✓ more reliability
- ✓ less traffic congestion
- ✓ better safety and efficiency

Image Credit: UNSW Water Research Laboratory - Chris Drummond

### About the flood mitigation program

The Wakehurst Parkway Flood Mitigation Program is a complex infrastructure improvement program designed to reduce the incidence of flooding that regularly disrupts this important transportation corridor.

The program complements other work being done by Transport for NSW to make the road safer and more efficient.

We are coordinating works with the Transport for NSW schedule to minimise the impact of construction on the community and eliminate any unnecessary work.

### Where are the works?

Four locations have been identified for the Wakehurst Parkway flood improvement works:

1. Oxford Falls Road (West)
2. Wakehurst Parkway at Oxford Falls - near Oxford Falls Grammar School
3. Wakehurst Parkway at 'The Bends'
4. Wakehurst Parkway at Sydney Academy Sport.

Council identified these sites and recommended flood management options as a part of the Wakehurst Parkway Flood Mitigation Feasibility Study.

Council has engaged with the community on the study and in response to community feedback, revised The Bends concept design to achieve a balance between the much-needed infrastructure improvements and environmental sustainability.

### Program investment

The current estimate for the Wakehurst Parkway Flood Mitigation Program is approximately \$31.1 million.

The initial expected expenditure of \$18.1 million, costed in 2021, sought to improve three locations - Wakehurst Parkway at Oxford Falls, The Bends, and Sydney Academy of Sport.

However, following extensive Council investigations into options for reducing flooding along the corridor, an additional site has been added at the causeway on Oxford Falls Road West.

Since the original costings, the scope has expanded to ensure that flood mitigation works allow for Transport for NSW to widen the route from two to four lanes at Oxford Falls, and reduce environmental impacts at The Bends.

Additionally, inflation and post pandemic market escalations have seen an increase to the cost of infrastructure delivery across the state.

### Funding sources

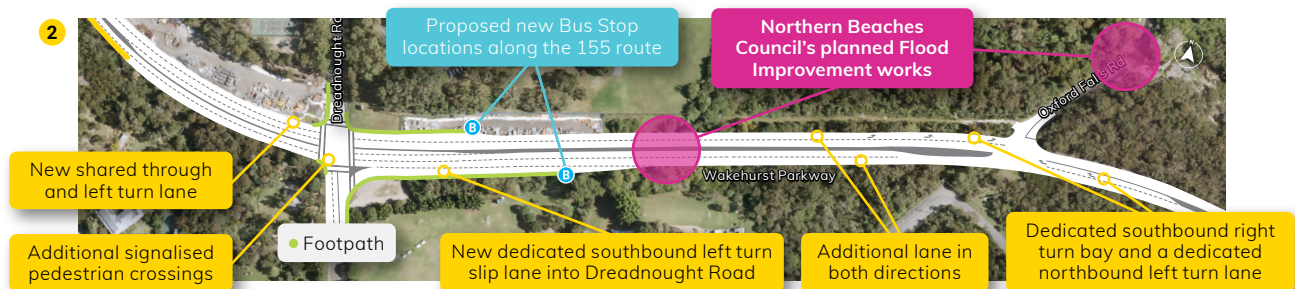
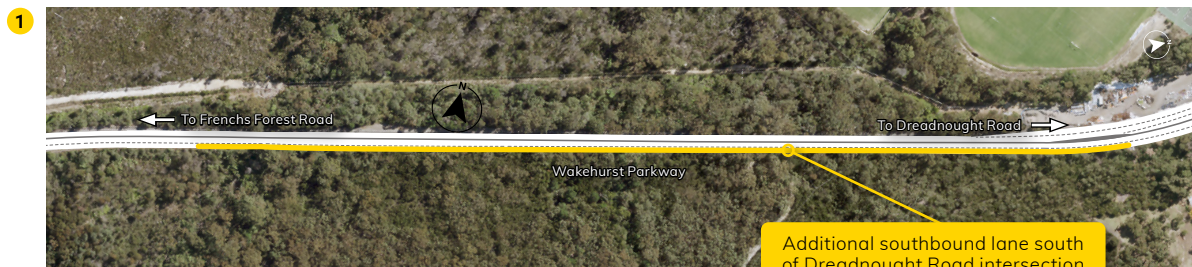
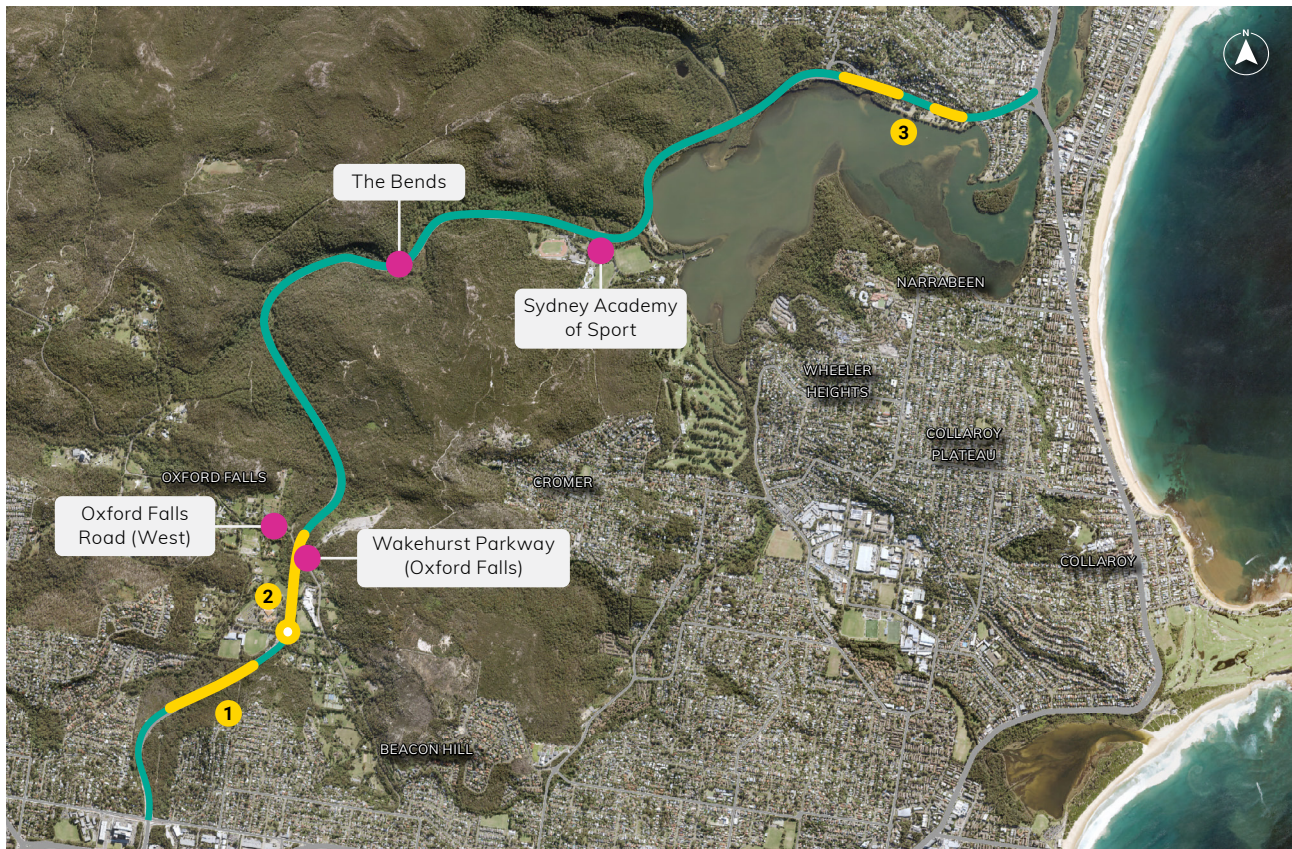
The responsibility of upgrading state-owned roads rests with the state government. Council is aligning with Transport for NSW to optimise both parties' efforts and resources for these essential upgrades.

The NSW Government is funding 100 per cent of the council-managed flood improvement project with \$31.1 million to deliver the work, which includes:

- \$5 million from the NSW Government's Stronger Communities Fund
- \$26.1 million – from Transport for NSW in two stages, its initial \$13.1 million committed in 2021 and the further 2023 election commitment of \$13.0 million.



- Wakehurst Parkway
- Transport for NSW safety improvement projects
- Northern Beaches Council flood mitigation projects





### About the Transport for NSW safety and capacity improvements

Transport for NSW proposes to carry out road improvements along Wakehurst Parkway between Frenchs Forest Road, Frenchs Forest and Pittwater Road, North Narrabeen. These enhancements will include intersection upgrades and a focus on safety and capacity for this vital Northern Beaches transportation corridor.

Council is supporting the state-managed project and is also undertaking the flood improvement program on behalf of the NSW Government.

For more information, contact:  
Transport for NSW  
1800 684 490  
[northplace@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:northplace@transport.nsw.gov.au)  
**[transport.nsw.gov.au](https://transport.nsw.gov.au)**

### What's next?

Now that we have funding confirmation and Transport for NSW is engaging with the community on its projects, Council can finalise designs and complete the environmental assessments for the culvert upgrades at Oxford Falls Road West. We will share these with the community for feedback shortly.

Council's work at Oxford Falls Road West is expected to commence in early 2024, with the Transport for NSW work at Wakehurst Parkway and Oxford Falls expected to commence later in 2024.

Concurrently, Council is working on refining the newly identified options for The Bends and will be progressing these in consultation with Transport for NSW to understand the potential construction impacts on traffic before finalising designs and associated approvals. Once that work is complete, these will also be shared with the community.

Council will make every effort to coordinate works with Transport for NSW in a complementary way to minimise the impacts of construction on the community.



**Scan for more information**

Contact: 1300 434 434  
[council@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au)