Seasons greetings as we bring you the December Across the Bridge community update. Roads and Maritime is working to modernise and improve the Sydney Harbour Bridge through a coordinated approach to a number of projects happening in the area.

In the past few months we have been busy engaging with the community on our proposed upgrades to the bridge. Thanks to everyone who took the time to review our proposals. Your feedback and ideas will help to shape the future of the bridge and its surrounds.

New Year’s Eve 2017

Sydney’s 2017 New Year’s Eve celebration is fast approaching. With more than one million people expected to visit the city it’s important to plan ahead to ensure your night is memorable for the right reasons.

Visit sydneynewyearseve.com for more information to help plan your own New Year’s Eve celebration.

Don’t forget that access across Sydney Harbour Bridge will be restricted at various times to allow the bridge to play the starring role in the fireworks spectacular.

Visit livetraffic.com for live closure times, traffic updates and traveller information.
Toll plaza upgrade projects

Southern toll plaza precinct upgrade

Yes, we have successfully removed both sets of toll booths. But there is still important work for our hard-working teams to do. We appreciate the patience and understanding of road users and the local community. We will complete this project early in 2018 and provide motorists with a simpler and more efficient journey across the bridge.

To help us finish this project as quickly as possible, we will be increasing our work area on the bridge during the Christmas and New Year period when there is less traffic on the road.

Learn More

Staging plans and animated driver scenarios to demonstrate the path to take over the bridge are available at www.rms.nsw.gov.au/sydneyharbourbridge.

Northern toll plaza precinct upgrade

We recently sought community feedback on the proposed upgrade to the northern toll plaza precinct, which would remove the redundant northern toll booths and simplify traffic lanes through this area.

We are currently reviewing the feedback received during consultation. We will publish a report responding to all feedback we received, in the New Year.
Sydney Harbour Bridge access lifts

In October this year we sought community feedback about the proposed access lifts to the pedestrian walkway on the bridge. This project will ensure that everybody can enjoy the experience of being on one of Australia’s most recognisable landmarks.

We have reviewed all the feedback that was received and have responded to it in the recently published submissions report. The report is available to view on the project website.

We are expecting to start construction on the lifts in the first quarter of 2018, construction on this project is expected to take eight months.

We will continue to keep the community up to date as we progress with this project.

Sydney Harbour Bridge cycleway

On average, around 2,000 cyclists trips are taken across the Sydney Harbour Bridge cycleway on weekdays, making it the most heavily used cycleway in the Sydney metropolitan area.

In November this year we proposed two plans to improve accessibility to the cycleway at both the northern and southern ends of the bridge. We received a huge response to these proposals and will be reviewing the feedback received during consultation in the New Year.
Have you noticed the new lights on the bridge?

Protecting the heritage of the Sydney Harbour Bridge while keeping up with the modern Sydney is a challenge. The lantern replacement program is working to return the original bronze lanterns on the bridge, removing the intrusive modern light fittings.

The original lanterns were removed in 1968 as they were not bright enough to properly light up the roadway. To overcome this, our team was able to conceal additional lights within the light arm structure to provide enough light for the road, which has meant we can use the original bronze lanterns.

We think the new lanterns are a much better fit on our Sydney icon, how about you?

Spring Cycle

Over 10,000 riders took part in the 2017 Spring Cycle, which saw the streets of Sydney taken over by cyclists. The Spring Cycle is the one day of the year that you can cycle across the bridge’s main deck.

As proud sponsors of the event led by Bicycle NSW, it was great to see a fun day was had by all.