The NSW Government is building light rail from Circular Quay to Kingsford and Randwick through the Sydney CBD.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was placed on public exhibition by Planning and Infrastructure in November 2013. As a result of public consultation, a number of design changes and improvements have been made to the proposal. These changes are outlined in the Submissions Report incorporating the Preferred Infrastructure Report. Learn more ▶
Subject to planning approval, construction of the CBD and South East Light Rail will begin in 2014 and will take five to six years to complete.
Project update

Submissions Report

Transport for NSW has undertaken significant community and stakeholder consultation during the development of the CBD and South East Light Rail project.

Hundreds of community members and stakeholders attended information sessions held in their neighbourhood during the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) exhibition period held from 14 November to 16 December 2013.

Over 480 EIS submissions were made to Planning and Infrastructure, which have been carefully considered and responded to in a Submissions Report.

A number of design changes and improvements have been made in response to issues raised by the community and stakeholders. These include:

Randwick Stop and interchange
The Randwick stop design has been improved, reducing the canopy size and preserving three times more parkland within High Cross Park compared to the design set out in the EIS.

Moore Park Stop and new pedestrian bridge
In Moore Park, a new footbridge over Anzac Parade will be built providing pedestrian access for students of Sydney Boys and Sydney Girls High School. The Moore Park stop will also be moved south near Lang Road, reducing the impact to the existing AFL training oval.

Wansey Road Stop
Wansey Road will become one-way with one lane of parking on the eastern side from Alison Road to Arthur Street and two-way from Arthur Street to High Street. The Wansey Road stop will be relocated to Alison Road.

UNSW High Street Stop
The UNSW High Street Stop will be relocated from Wansey Road to High Street, opposite the university entrance.

Surry Hills Stop
The Surry Hills Stop has changed from an island platform to a side platform to improve access to Ward Park. The location of the Ward Park construction compound has also been moved towards the north-western side of Ward Park to reduce impacts on the surrounding community.

The Submissions Report is available for download in the resources section of the Sydney Light Rail website at www.sydneylightrail.com.au.

Next steps

The EIS and the Submissions Report incorporating the Preferred Infrastructure Report (including the design changes) will be reviewed by Planning and Infrastructure, before a recommendation is made to the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure regarding approval of the project.

Transport for NSW is committed to engaging with the community throughout the delivery of the project outcomes and will continue to keep the public informed via project updates, letter box notifications, the project website and notices in local newspapers. Regular community and business forums are also being established along the light rail route (see back page of this update for more information).

The project will be constructed and operated in accordance with any conditions of approval.

Indicative project timeline

EIS preparation and consultation
- Market stalls, door knocking and community information sessions
- EIS lodged with Planning and Infrastructure

Public exhibition and submissions
- EIS on public exhibition and a chance to make a formal submission
- Submissions Report submitted to Planning and Infrastructure

Decision by Minister for Planning and Infrastructure
- We are here

Detailed design, construction and operation
- Construction to begin before the end of 2014
- Ongoing engagement
Utilities investigations

Transport for NSW commenced utilities investigation works in late 2013, which are an important part of developing the design for the CBD and South East Light Rail project. The work helps to refine the design and improve construction planning for the project by confirming the location of existing buried utilities such as water, telecommunications, gas and electricity.

More than 3,500 pit surveys – opening of manhole covers and investigations – have been completed and over 200 trenches are in the process of being opened to identify and verify utilities below the road surface throughout the light rail corridor.

The results of these investigations are being used to create a comprehensive 3D computer model of the underground utilities. This will be used to plan and deliver the light rail project efficiently and minimise disruption to businesses and communities along the route.

Business and community forums

Business and community forums are being established in precincts across the CBD and South East Light Rail route. Regular business forums are being established in the CBD, Surry Hills, Moore Park, Randwick and Kingsford/Kensington.

Local community forums will also be established in the CBD, Surry Hills, Randwick and Kingsford/Kensington in the coming months.

Transport for NSW is seeking nominations from businesses and community members along the alignment and in the proximity of the light rail route to be members of these forums.

They will provide a regular opportunity for businesses and communities to learn more about the project, its potential impacts and how they can best prepare for construction.

To nominate your interest in participating in these forums, please contact projects@transport.nsw.gov.au or call our infoline on 1800 684 490.

For updated information on the project please visit our website at www.sydneylightrail.com.au.