

newcastle rail corridor upgrade projects

In February 2006 the NSW Government confirmed that rail services would continue into Newcastle and committed \$18.5 million for works to assist people and traffic to move more easily across the rail corridor between Hamilton and Newcastle Railway Stations.

The Newcastle Rail Corridor Project is a series of projects that collectively will reduce waiting times for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists at level crossings, reduce train queuing across level crossings and maintain passenger train services to Newcastle.

PROJECTS	REASON FOR PROJECT
Extend platform 1 at Hamilton Station and relocate train signal	HAMILTON — To prevent eight car trains ex Newcastle from stopping across the Beaumont Street level crossing whilst making a station stop at Hamilton. This will reduce the time that the level crossing is closed to vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
Provide pedestrian pathways linking Beaumont Street with the western end of the Hamilton Station platforms	HAMILTON — Improve access for pedestrians to and from stations and improve safety. Improve accessibility for wheelchairs
Upgrade the level crossing at Railway Street – providing additional pedestrian pathway adjacent to road	WICKHAM — Upgrading improves the road and pedestrian approaches to the level crossing as well as upgrading the vehicular and pedestrian controls at the railway crossing. The improved safety and amenity may make this crossing more attractive to some road users currently using the Stewart Avenue level crossing.
Extend Platform 1 at Wickham Station and relocate train signal	WICKHAM — To prevent eight car trains ex Newcastle from stopping across the Stewart Street level crossing whilst making a station stop at Wickham. This will reduce the time that the level crossing is closed to vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
Provide pedestrian pathways linking Stewart Avenue with the western end of Wickham Station platforms	WICKHAM — Improve access for pedestrians to and from stations and improve safety. Improve accessibility for wheelchairs.
Provide a separate left hand turning lane on the southbound approach at Stewart Avenue and Hunter Street intersection	WICKHAM — Provision of a separate lane will reduce queue length for cars stopped at Hunter Street, which currently queue through the Stewart Avenue level crossing (the busiest level crossing).
Upgrade Stewart Avenue and King Street intersection	WICKHAM — The upgrade will reduce southbound queuing on Stewart Avenue, which currently extends towards Stewart Avenue level crossing. The project will also improve traffic flow on King Street, including traffic that turns north towards the Stewart Avenue railway crossing. RTA modelling indicates that the project will be particularly effective in reducing congestion in the area and in the afternoon peak.

PROJECTS

REASON FOR PROJECT

Installation of signage to guide people to access ways across the rail corridor between Civic and Wickham Stations



Information for pedestrians to advise them the most direct route to cross the railway corridor.

Upgrade the level crossing at Merewether Street - providing additional pedestrian pathway adjacent to road



Improved safety and throughput will be achieved by upgrading signals to current standards and improving approaches for drivers and pedestrians. Pedestrians will be able to use the eastern side of the level crossing as well as the western side.

Extend Platform 2 (to Newcastle) at Civic Station and relocate train signal



To prevent eight car trains to Newcastle from stopping across the Merewether Street level crossing whilst making a station stop at Civic. This will reduce the time that the level crossing is closed to vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

New pedestrian crossing at Hunter Street linked to level crossing upgrade at Merewether Street



The crossing will provide additional access for pedestrians between the CBD and harbour foreshore, via the new pedestrian crossing linked to the Merewether Street railway level crossing.

Provide pedestrian pathway linking Merewether Street with the eastern end of the southern platform at Civic Station



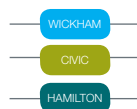
Improve access for pedestrians to and from station and improve safety. Improve accessibility for wheelchairs.

Remove unused pedestrian bridge stairs at Newcastle Station



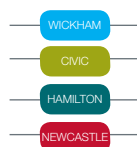
Remove the visual intrusion.

Improve the Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) system at level crossings at Hamilton, Wickham and Civic Station



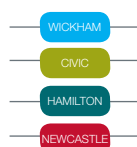
Improve the quality of images for the Railcorp signallers operating the level crossing boom gates.

General corridor clean-up removing rubbish and unused rail infrastructure



Improve the attractiveness of the rail corridor.

Landscaping and fencing replacement at key locations



Improve the attractiveness of the rail corridor.

For more information

- > visit www.premiers.nsw.gov.au
- > email iig@premiers.nsw.gov.au
- > call the Premier's Department Regional Coordinator, Hunter on (02) 4927 8799



An initiative of the
New South Wales Government