

Did You Know?

Induced Traffic

This is the increase in car trips that occurs after the opening or widening of a road. It occurs because more road space temporarily relieves congestion and more drivers use the road network than before. As vehicles increase the road becomes more congested and travel speeds slow until the road reaches its maximum capacity.

Oil Security

We are now using more oil than we are discovering! As demand for oil outstrips the discovery of new reserves, cheap petrol and diesel are harder to obtain. The NSW Government should be planning for an environment where supplies of oil are increasingly scarce and uncertain. In this situation, any motorway project is a short-sighted waste of resources.

\$10 Per Day...

This "free road" will cost every commuter \$10 a day, every day, for 30 years.

Greenhouse

The NSW Government says "Cars are a major contributor of greenhouse and air pollution in our cities."

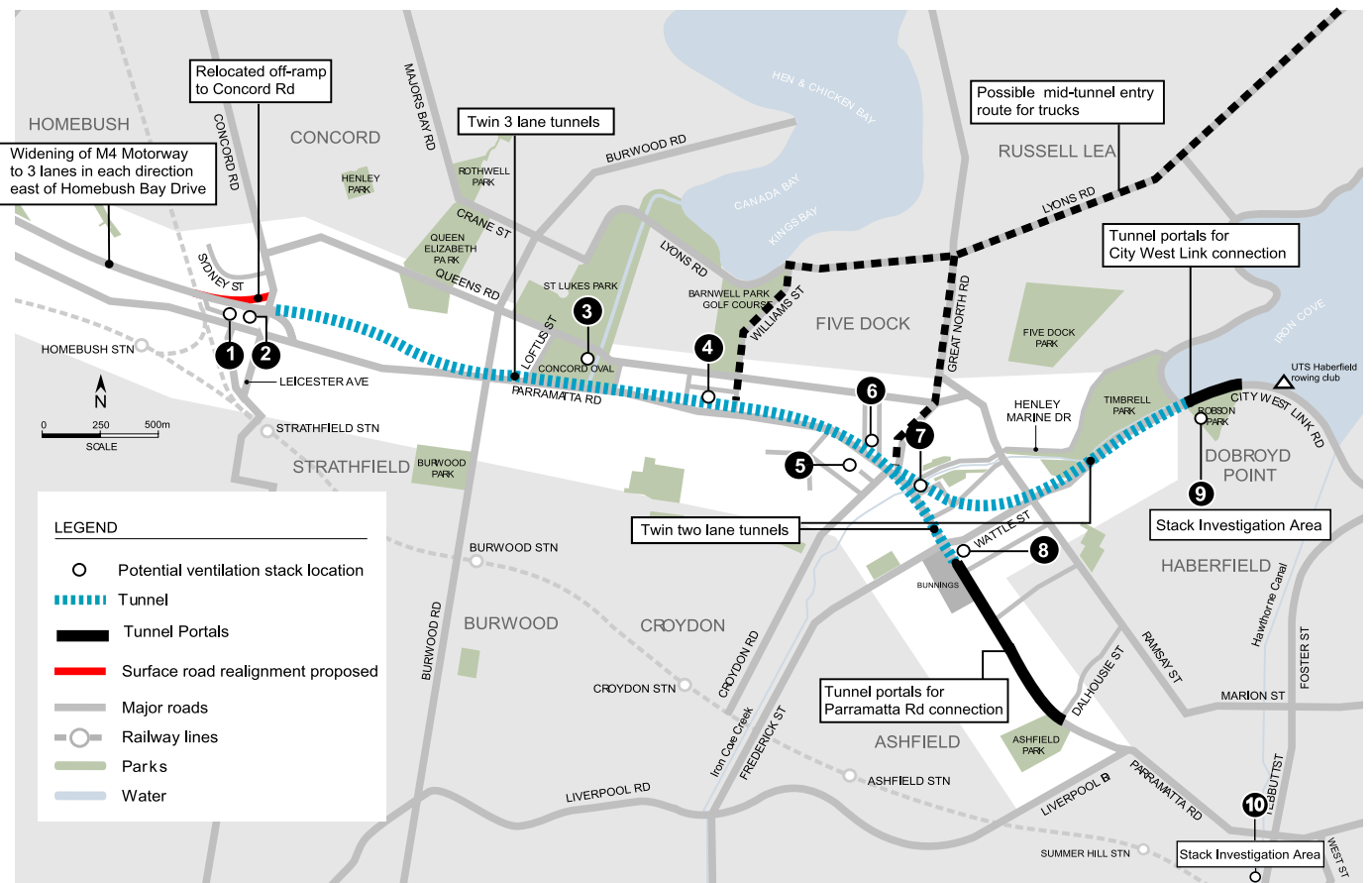
EIS

Environmental Impact Statements are documents prepared by the developer to outline the impacts of a proposed development.

Property Values : There is no 'U' in EIS

The Government recognises that having a motorway in your backyard can affect the value of your property. As a result, they guaranteed the resale value of homes near the M5 East for a period of 4 years. In the case of the M4 East there is no such commitment.

changed at any time. For example, the RTA made no mention in the Environmental Impact Statement(EIS), of the 35 additional homes they wanted to knock down, for the Cross City Tunnel until after public consultation had been completed. They also changed the advertised location of the



Proposed M4 East configuration and structural features

The map above shows the M4 East Tunnel as it is currently proposed. Potential emission stacks (sites 1 to 8) have already been investigated, and at least two of these will be used. Site 9 is another potential site, yet to be investigated.

Motorway portals (exits) will be huge cement scars in the middle of Parramatta Road and Dobroyd Parade. Suburbs at either end of the tunnel will suffer the worst traffic increases.

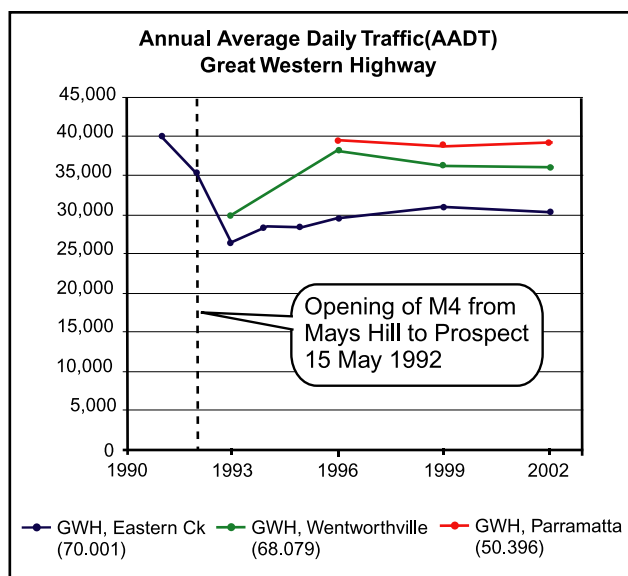
However, we don't really know how long the tunnel will be as any of these details can be

Cross City Tunnel stack and the tunnel length at the last minute.

The M4 East is also part of a bigger plan. Ultimately, this proposal is the first stage of a motorway connecting the Inner West to Mascot.

Site 10 is the proposed location for a stack required as part of the Summer Hill to Mascot extension. It will bring 60,000 more cars onto Parramatta Rd, and may be used by the NSW Government to force through more high density development, under the guise of "revitalisation".

Rubbery Figures: History Shows Traffic Snaps Back



Traffic on Great Western Highway after M4 extension

Many people have been told that the motorway will be good because it will take traffic off their street. The problem is that with many road projects, such as the M5 East and the Eastern Distributor, the RTA grossly under-estimated the extra traffic. Even when roads experienced reductions in vehicle numbers these were either temporary, or achieved by moving bottlenecks from one street to another.

As shown in this graph, when the M4 was last extended there was an immediate drop in traffic on the Great Western Highway, parallel to the motorway. Traffic near Eastern Creek then began to climb slowly and steadily as traffic returned. At Wentworthville and Parramatta traffic numbers rebounded much more quickly as drivers used the Great Western Highway to travel to and from the motorway. Daily vehicle numbers quickly reached the maximum capacity of 40,000 vehicles per day, and stayed at, or near this level.

A similar pattern can be expected on Parramatta Road unless the RTA deliberately limits its road capacity. East of Ashfield the situation is predicted to be even worse, because additional traffic will be fed into Parramatta Road and the City West Link by the M4 East. As a result, both roads are predicted to experience an immediate increase in peak-hour traffic.