

# Project update – Blues Point site



Blues Point acoustic shed from Henry Lawson Avenue.

## Blues Point temporary site – extended usage

In 2016, the Sydney Metro City & Southwest Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) identified Blues Point as a location for an ancillary site facility to support construction activities, including the removal of Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) cutter heads.

In 2018, the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment approved a modification to use the Blues Point site for the removal of additional TBM components. As part of this modification, an acoustic shed was installed to reduce noise and dust impacts on the community.

Sydney Metro is very grateful to the local community for its support and understanding while the Blues Point site has been in use.

As with any major project of this size, the original sequence of works has undergone some changes to ensure the project is delivered as quickly and efficiently as possible. Sydney Metro has reviewed the construction program and methodology, and identified Blues Point as the required access point for the upcoming under-harbour tunnel fit out works. This is because other tunnel access points on either side (such as Victoria Cross and Barangaroo) are being used for station construction.

As a result, Sydney Metro intends to seek approval to continue using the Blues Point site for an additional 12 months. This will enable delivery of this vital project for Sydney as quickly as possible.

The site would be used by the Linewide Works contractor (Systems Connect) from late 2020 to late 2021 to access the metro tunnels for track laying and other construction activity, with the existing acoustic shed remaining in place.

We acknowledge the additional temporary disruption this may cause, and reiterate our thanks to the community for their continued support and patience.

### Sydney Metro is Australia's biggest public transport project

Services started in May 2019 in the city's North West with a train every four minutes in the peak. Metro rail will be extended into the CBD and beyond to Bankstown in 2024. There will be new metro railway stations at Martin Place, Pitt Street and Barangaroo and new metro platforms at Central.

In 2024, Sydney will have 31 metro railway stations and a 66km standalone metro railway system. There will be ultimate capacity for a metro train every two minutes in each direction under the Sydney city centre.

## Blues Point modification proposal overview

### Site layout

The existing acoustic shed would be retained. The overall site footprint may be slightly reduced, with the construction hoarding at the south end moved so that access to the beach could potentially be reinstated.

### Work activities and duration

The Blues Point site would be used to enable under-harbour tunnel fit out work between Barangaroo and Victoria Cross. This includes:

- Installation of new, smaller gantry crane, including temporary removal of harbour-facing shed wall
- Delivery and pouring of concrete to form the track slab
- Cable and equipment delivery and installation
- Overhead traction power installation
- Other equipment installation including lighting, drainage and safety systems.

This work is planned to commence in late 2020 following completion of work by the tunnelling contractor. It is expected to take approximately 12 months to complete.

### Working hours

Major work within the shed and tunnel is currently planned to take place during daytime hours only (7am to 6pm). Overnight work is expected to consist of delivery of materials into the site, with a small logistics crew working in the shed to unload deliveries and prepare the track laying machines for the following day shift.

### Traffic and transport

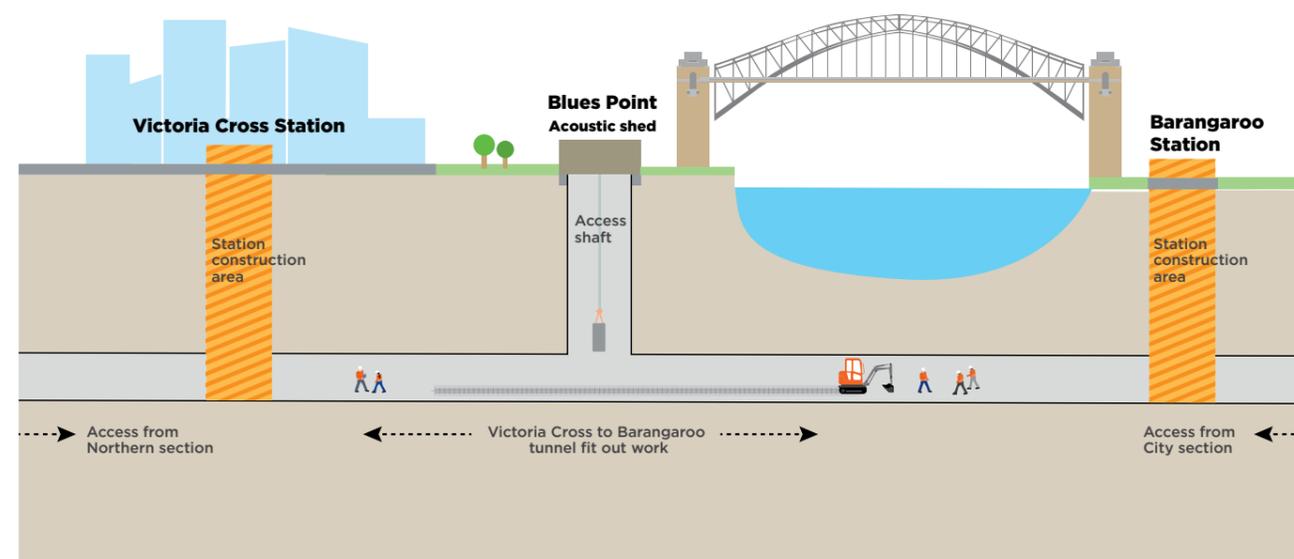
During certain activities such as concrete pouring, there would be a maximum of four truck movements per hour in the peak (between 7am and 10am). This is consistent with the truck volumes during the establishment phase of the tunnelling works at the site. Maximum truck volumes outside of the peak would be six trucks per hour.

There would also be additional overnight truck movements to allow for efficient fit out works. There would be between four and eight truck movements overnight between 6pm and 6am.

There would be no changes to existing road, public transport or pedestrian arrangements in the area as a result of the work.

### Noise and vibration

The majority of work would take place inside the acoustic shed or down in the tunnels, so minimal noise and vibration is expected outside of the site. There would be some noise experienced when the new gantry crane is installed and the shed is closed back up, as well as intermittent noise from truck movements and unloading of heavy materials.



## Blues Point modification proposal - Q&As

### Why is the Blues Point site required for the tunnel fit out work instead of other access points?

Since the project was approved, Sydney Metro has completed detailed construction planning to identify opportunities to carry out tunnel fit out work earlier and more effectively.

The Blues Point site was identified as the best access point for tunnel fit out between Barangaroo and Victoria Cross. As the diagram above shows, using the Blues Point site would significantly simplify and accelerate construction by allowing the tunnel fit out work to take place, including installation of rail tracks, power cables and other systems, independent of the station construction either side.

### Why was this not proposed earlier?

As with any major project of this size, the construction program and methodology is regularly reviewed and updated as work progresses to find improvements. We understand this will result in continued temporary impacts to the local community. We thank the community in advance for their patience. Sydney Metro will continue to ensure impacts are minimised as much as possible.

### Why can't the barging facility stay in place for the new work to reduce truck movements?

The barging operation was designed for the removal of spoil associated with tunnelling activities. The new activities planned for the site are significantly different to the previous work.

Transporting concrete to site via barge would not be possible, as the concrete is likely to set and cure on the way from the Clyde barge facility to Blues Point. Other materials used in tunnel fit out are not able to be transported by barge.

### When is the shed expected to be removed?

We would expect to remove the acoustic shed at the completion of work in late 2021, restoring the harbour views prior to New Year's Eve 2021/22.

The site compound would remain in place with a reduced footprint and smaller fence line until early 2022 when the site is restored and park reinstated.

### When will the park be reinstated? What will the park look like?

We would expect to reinstate the park in early 2022. This would include removal of the remaining site fences and structures, backfilling of the shaft with clean material, and the restoration of the area for public use.

We appreciate how important this space is to the community and we will work closely with North Sydney Council on the final design of the park, including acknowledgment of the heritage character of the area and recognition of the archaeological finds from the excavation phase.

### Will Blues Point Reserve be open on New Year's Eve?

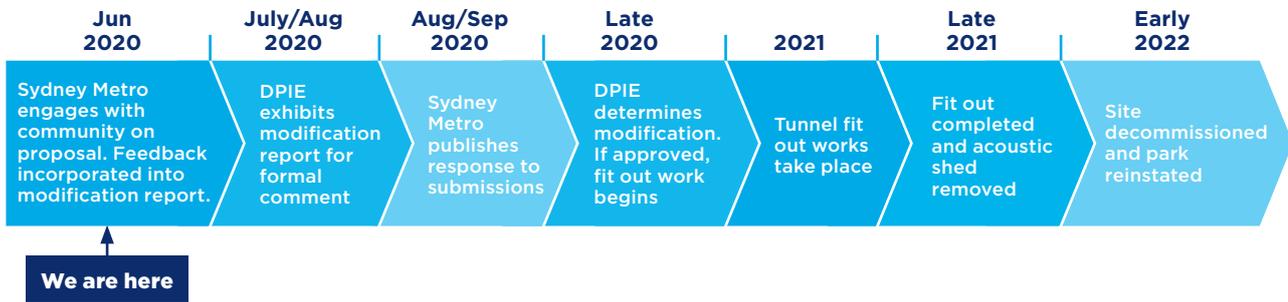
Sydney Metro is currently working with North Sydney Council and other government agencies to confirm access arrangements for New Year's Eve 2020/21.



## Next steps

Sydney Metro is preparing a modification to submit to the Department of Planning, Industry & Environment (DPIE) for assessment. Sydney Metro is seeking feedback from the community on this proposal before the modification is submitted.

### Proposed modification timeline



### Have your say

To provide any feedback, comments or questions on any aspect of the proposal, please contact Sydney Metro via:

-  [sydneymetro@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sydneymetro@transport.nsw.gov.au)
-  1800 171 386
-  Sydney Metro City & Southwest  
PO Box K659, Haymarket NSW 1240.

We will also be holding online community information sessions, where you can hear from the project team and ask questions. The sessions will take place on Tuesday 16 June (4pm-6pm) and Saturday 20 June (10am-midday).

To sign up or for more information, please email our community team at [sydneymetro@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sydneymetro@transport.nsw.gov.au) with your name, address and email address.

## Tunnelling construction update – Blues Point gantry crane removal

The tunnelling contractor John Holland CPB Ghella will soon start to remove the large gantry crane from inside the acoustic shed. To safely remove this crane, a harbour-facing section of the shed will be taken down. The shed removal will start from **Monday 29 June** and take about two weeks to complete, weather and site conditions permitting. This work will take place during standard construction hours, which are 7am – 6pm Monday to Friday and 8am – 1pm on Saturdays.

After this section of the shed has been removed, the gantry crane will be removed from the site by truck. This will include some oversized loads at night. Another update will be provided closer to the start of this work.

### What to expect

- Increased light vehicle and truck movements (non-tonal reversing alarms will be used)
- Temporary single lane closures on Blues Point Road and Henry Lawson Avenue. Traffic control and directional signage will be in place.
- Access to properties, Henry Lawson Avenue bus stop and McMahons Point ferry wharf will be maintained.
- Occasional parking space closures on Blues Point Road to allow for oversized truck movements.
- Temporary lighting may be used at night (will be directed away from properties)
- Use of hand tools, rattle guns, drills, elevated work platforms, forklifts and mobile cranes.
- Permanent restoration of roads and footpaths affected will be done at the end of the project.

A map of the site area is provided on page two of this newsletter. Thank you for your cooperation while we complete this essential work.

Location	24/7 Activities
Temporary retrieval site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concreting activities, delivery and removal of materials, concrete, plant and equipment including oversized sections of the shed and gantry crane</li> </ul>
<b>7am – 6pm Monday to Friday and 8am – 1pm on Saturdays</b>	
Temporary retrieval site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dismantling the harbour-facing section of the acoustic shed</li> </ul>