

THE HON PAUL FLETCHER MP

Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts Member for Bradfield

MEDIA RELEASE

22 October 2020

NorthConnex Opening Date Revealed

Sydney's newest motorway, NorthConnex, will be open to drivers from Saturday 31 October.

The \$3 billion mega-project will be a game changer for motorists, reducing travel times by up to 15 minutes and allowing drivers to avoid 21 sets of traffic lights along Pennant Hills Road.

Since construction started, more than 17,000 people have been involved in delivering NorthConnex, making it one of Australia's largest new infrastructural projects and a major provider of jobs.

"The 90 metre-deep tunnel is designed to the highest safety standards, and is fitted with the latest technology in driver safety. Upon completion, 50,000 tests and checks have been conducted to ensure the motorway is ready to open" said Member for Bradfield, Paul Fletcher.

The nine-kilometre, twin tunnel, connects the M1 Pacific Motorway in Wahroonga to the Hills M2 Motorway at West Pennant Hills, and will take 8 minutes to drive end-to-end. It is fitted with innovative lighting features, such as trees, star scapes and birds, which are aimed to keep drivers engaged.

"NorthConnex will change the way that commuters travel across Sydney, and features the latest in tunnel technology to ensure that their commute is a safe one" said Mr Fletcher.

"The new tunnel will see up to 5,000 trucks a day removed from Pennant Hills Road, reducing congestion on our roads and improving air quality in our community".

NorthConnex is expected to open in the early hours of Saturday 31 October, once final safety checks have been completed.

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