

# OLD WALLGROVE ROAD UPGRADE

DEVELOPER : NSW Roads and Maritime Services  
 MAIN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY : Daracon Group  
 CONSTRUCTION VALUE : \$50 million

## HITTING THE ROAD

The \$50M Old Wallgrove Road Upgrade project for NSW Roads and Maritime Services, provides a much needed link between the Western Sydney Employment area and major roadways. The project includes a number of upgrades to the current Old Wallgrove Road infrastructure as well as providing a 400m link road to the northbound on and off ramps to the M7.

Old Wallgrove Road provides a vital east-west link connection for the Western Sydney Employment Area, which comprises existing land at Greystanes, Huntingwood, Eastern Creek and Erskine Park, as well as newly released land at Ropes Creek and Horsley Park.

The extensive upgrade involves a number of key features to facilitate traffic flow and expected usage related to the employment area. These works included the multiple lane widening to two (between Roberts Road and Southridge Street) and three lanes (between Southridge Street and the M7 Motorway and Wallgrove Road interchanges) in each direction with a central median to allow for additional lanes in the future.

In addition to providing bus stops near each intersection on Old Wallgrove Road and upgrading intersections with bus priority, shared path for pedestrians and cyclists from the Erskine Park Link Road to the shared pathway on the M7 Motorway, as well as the 400m dual lane link road and the upgrade to the 1km Wallgrove Road to provide additional turning and through lanes.

Some key project elements was the construction of a 4-lane carriageway pavement under live traffic, four major traffic switches, construction and upgrades of five signalised intersections and the widening of two bridges.

One of the challenges with the project had been maintaining traffic flows to the motorway for smooth operations. "The project is for RMS but connects to the M7 on-ramp and off-ramp, so the project interacts with the ramps – and the challenge was to maintain flows to the motorway during construction, for continuity. Also to maintain traffic flow during utility relocation," John Rossi, a Project Manager with Daracon, said.

"Utilities were relocated and managed without closing the M7 – we had lots of staging and traffic control. There was heavy interaction with the M7 Motorway, with a great deal of planning and interaction to ensure they were satisfied," John said.

Daracon oversaw the relocation of utilities, which involved electrical mains, both overhead and underground power lines, as well as major communication lines and major water mains. "An overhead electrical main was relocated over live traffic. It was all about coordination. There was constant surveillance from their traffic control room" said John.

Daracon has a skilled and motivated workforce of around 800, consistently delivering projects. Daracon's range of construction activities include road, rail, concrete structures, landscaping activity, quarrying and mining activities made possible through a large plant and machinery fleet maintained to the highest standard. Daracon's multiple divisions provide integrated civil construction services to their clients.

With a 30 year track record, Daracon's specialised team can offer all the services a client wants including plant hire, quarry material or landscaping requirements. As Daracon is able to fulfill most client needs inhouse, time and money is saved and a quality outcome assured with fewer coordination problems.

Other major projects Daracon has worked on include Sydney's North West Rail Link, now Sydney Metro Northwest, as well as construction of the concrete piers for the skytrain portion of the project, which takes Sydney Metro Northwest above ground between Kellyville and Rouse Hill. Daracon also undertook earthworks and roadworks for the skytrain section.

*For more information contact Daracon Group, 17 James Street, Wallsend NSW 2287, phone 02 4903 7000, fax 02 4951 1070, website [www.daracon.com.au](http://www.daracon.com.au)*



# GOT IT COVERED

Profiling and pavement stabilisation for the Old Wallgrove Road Upgrade was carried out by Roadworx. Our modern Wirtgen WR210 profiler with enclosed cabin used for the project was a first – the only one of its kind in Australia, and Roadworx was also the first in the country to obtain the Wirtgen WR240 pavement stabiliser – according to Roadworx Business Development Manager, Aaron Paterson.

Aaron said, “We excel in bringing business innovation and equipment to the market of pavement stabilisation, ITS, profiling, manufacturing, sealing and asphalt paving.”

For Roadworx, the Old Wallgrove Road Upgrade project involved about 10-12 employees, from tendering to consultation and operational works. Established in 2008 and with around 190 employees in all, Roadworx is growing.

Roadworx personnel have a strong history with upkeep and construction of New South Wales infrastructure for local governments and the private sector, such as upgrading traffic signals, resurfacing and reconstruction for council streets and RMS affiliated projects, and the maintenance of their assets.

Earlier this year Roadworx launched its own hi-tech asphalt batch plant at Kembla Grange, for a variety of asphalt types for Sydney, Illawarra and Southern Highland customers. Roadworx also owns New South Wales’ largest street sweeping company, All Sweeper Hire.

Customers like the extent of their operations to add what has already been discussed, including asphalt placement, spray seals, traffic control, traffic signals and minor civil works. It has a solid range of services to offer Councils, the RMS and private companies.

“It can be all inhouse with Roadworx,” Aaron said. “If you need your road upgraded, it can be a one-stop-shop for our customers. We are a young company but diverse and broad. When we speak to customers, they like that diversity.”

Roadworx Group Pty Ltd services the Sydney, Illawarra, Southern Highlands and Country New South Wales communities, providing infrastructure to road services for the public and private sectors.

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## WATER HIGHWAY

Auditing of water and sewer construction for the Old Wallgrove Road Upgrade was handled by Rose Atkins Rimmer (RAR), a licensed Water Servicing Coordinator providing surveillance during construction ensuring that standards are met.

RAR Managing Director, Steve Rimmer said work on the Old Wallgrove Road Upgrade was like the final piece of a puzzle for RAR.

“For the past 10 years we have worked in that location on various projects – all connected to and leading up to this upgrade,” said Steve, with 40 years industry experience. “So this project for us really was completing the puzzle.”

RAR commenced with Daracon on the Old Wallgrove Road Upgrade in June 2015 and will stay on the project until roadworks reach the point of final inspections with Sydney Water. All up, an interval of about 18 months. RAR had been the water servicing coordinator for the design phase of the project, engaged by NSW Roads and Maritime Services in early 2015.

For the current upgrade Steve Rimmer worked with colleague Greg Lynch, RAR designer and project coordinator. Greg undertook

design amendments and liaised with Sydney Water, including ensuring water mains were shut down enabling new mains to be connected to the system.

RAR employs around 31 people, with a mix of ages and experience, and has a 20-year track record. RAR has worked on the North West Rail Link, now Sydney Metro Northwest, and a range of projects out of Sydney including North Rothbury in the Hunter and Cooranbong, near Morisset, west of Lake Macquarie.

With full Sydney Water accreditation, Rose Atkins Rimmer (Infrastructure) Pty Ltd manages all aspects of the Sydney Water process from making application, designing required infrastructure, coordinating infrastructure works on site and finalising the job.

For more information contact Rose Atkins Rimmer, 142 Sunnyholt Road, Blacktown NSW 2148, phone 02 9853 0200, email [info@rari.com.au](mailto:info@rari.com.au), website [www.rari.com.au](http://www.rari.com.au)

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