



The Hon Duncan Gay MLC

Leader of Government Business

Legislative Council

Minister for Roads & Ports

MEDIA RELEASE

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NEUTRAL BAY FERRY WHARF TO CLOSE FOR SIX MONTHS AS PART OF \$8.3 MILLION UPGRADE

Neutral Bay ferry wharf will be demolished and replaced by an all-weather, disabled-access wharf in an \$8.3 million upgrade starting this month.

NSW Roads and Ports Minister Duncan Gay said work would start on the 6 month upgrade of the wharf on Monday 20 February 2012 as part of the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) wharf upgrade program.

“When completed this will be a great facility for the local community, however the wharf will be closed to all ferries and boats during the upgrade period,” Mr Gay said.

“Initial consultation has started with residents, businesses and watercraft owners to raise awareness of the impacts of the upgrade, including the wharf closure, noise and other issues associated with the work.

“Commuters will need to use alternative travel arrangements during this time, which include catching the ferry from the Kurraba Point Ferry Wharf 710 metres away (an eight to 12 minute walk), taking a shuttle bus service from Neutral Bay wharf to meet Sydney Ferries services leaving from the corner of High street and Clark road North Sydney and take a 500 metre walk to the wharf, or taking the 225 bus to Neutral Bay Junction for city bound passengers.

“The existing wharf and jetty structure will be completely demolished during the closure to make way for the new facility, while the heritage archway will be retained,” he said.

“Seventy-five metres of new jetty will be built from the shore, followed by the installation of a pontoon, which will be manufactured off site and brought to Neutral Bay by water.

“The new wharf will provide disabled access using a system of ramps. The jetty will be fully covered, including side protection from wind and rain for commuters.”

Member for North Shore Jillian Skinner said she had met with representatives of Roads and Maritime Services to ensure the project has as minimal disruption to the community as possible.

“This is fantastic news for the residents of the north shore and I look forward to its completion but urge residents to be patient while the upgrade is being completed,” Mrs Skinner said.

Mr Gay said the location of the wharf would provide a challenging environment as a work site.

“The work involves demolition and then construction of an entirely new structure in a challenging maritime environment in a constrained space,” he said.

“This is a major project, and while every effort will be made to minimise inconvenience to residents and business operators, there will be disruptions during the work. We will provide regular information to nearby residents and businesses and post updated information on the Roads and Maritime website.”

The new Neutral Bay ferry wharf is expected to be completed and reopen for use in around six months, weather permitting.

The work is part of an \$89.5 million commuter wharf upgrade program to progressively upgrade 12 wharves.

The upgrade to the Neutral Bay ferry wharf will involve:

- Establishing a work compound at the end of Hayes Street which will be used for the duration of the project
- Demolishing the existing wharf
- Building a new wharf including:
 - Piling work
 - Jetty construction
 - Gangway installation (manufactured off-site)
 - Pontoon installation (built off-site)

Most piling work is expected to be carried out between 7am and 11am. This will be the noisiest part of the upgrade.

A community information session is being held Tuesday 7 February, from 4pm to 8pm, at May Gibbs Nutcote, 5 Wallaringa Avenue, Neutral Bay.

Commuters are encouraged to plan their trip during the wharf closure by calling Transport Info on 131 500 or visiting 131500.com.au.