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Victoria Pass highway repair moves to next stage with 10 bidders

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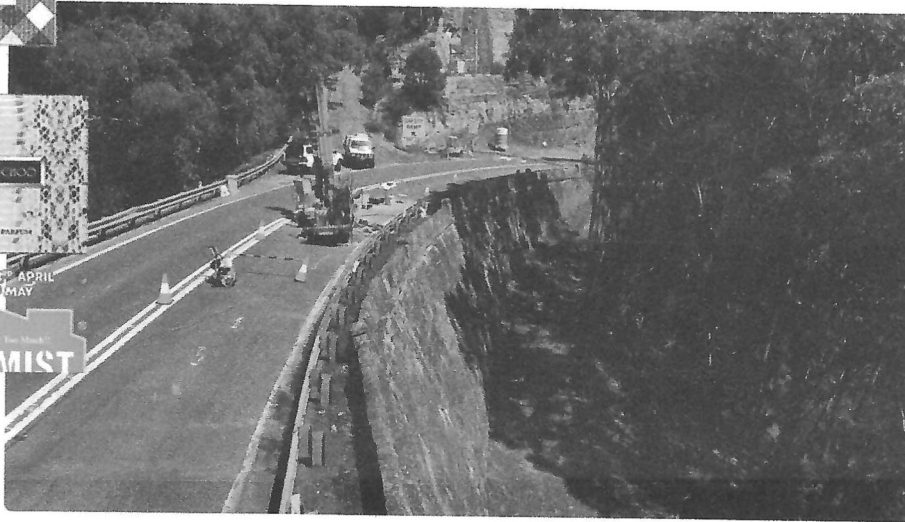
By Damien Madigan

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The Great Western Highway at Victoria Pass. Picture supplied

Ten companies have submitted plans for reopening the Great Western Highway at Victoria Pass.

Transport for NSW is now shortlisting the engineering solutions put forward by industry experts following the deadline for submissions on May 1.

At least two companies will move to the next phase after this process.

Transport for NSW deputy secretary Matt Fuller said he is pleased by the level of interest from the industry that were invited to provide realistic solutions to reinstate this critical road link.

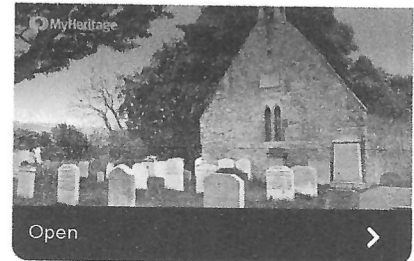
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"We are moving at pace and the fact that we have 10 submissions from a range of entities is very pleasing," he said.

"This week we will narrow these down and identify which proposals will move to the next stage. From there, at least two companies will move through the next phase of the process, where their proposals will be further developed and assessed before the final solution is chosen.

"We hope to give the community an update on how this is progressing next week."

A select group of just over 20 companies with a track record for delivering critical infrastructure projects was invited to submit proposals for Mitchells Causeway following an industry briefing on Thursday, April 23 and site inspection on Wednesday, April 29.

Representatives were told nothing was off the table.

Mr Fuller said the delivery timelines would be a key part of the decision-making process to ensure a solution can be implemented to reopen the road as quickly and as safely as possible.

The Great Western Highway has been closed west of Mount Victoria since March 8 after Transport for NSW identified serious cracking and defects in the road at Mitchells Causeway.



■ During a NSW Police operation in Sutherland Shire, four non-compliant e-bikes were seized, and 49 traffic infringement notices were given. An additional 48 traffic cautions, eight transport infringements, 12 person searches, and 11 move-on directions were given.