

MEDIA ALERT



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*Albury Wodonga Hume Freeway
Ettamogah to Murray River*

Wilson Street footbridge to travel

WHAT Wilson Street footbridge to be dismantled to make way for freeway.

WHEN 0900hrs, Friday 09 September 2005

WHERE Wilson Street on the western side of the railway

BACKGROUND

Part of the Wilson Street footbridge structure will be preserved as NSW rail history, when a significant portion of the bridge is loaded onto semi-trailers and relocated to the NSW Rail Transport Museum at Thirlmere, near Picton.

The flight of steel stairs on the western side of the bridge was taken down on Tuesday morning in preparation for today's work when the deck will be lifted and removed.

Abigroup has worked closely with RailCorp to preserve the heritage value of the Wilson Street footbridge, which has been an important item of local infrastructure for over 60 years.

The footbridge, which spans 11 tracks and is supported on six braced steel trestle frames, was constructed in 1944 and is an indicator of the high level of wartime military rail traffic operating on the line at the time. A welded structure with a concrete deck, it is one of the last 'Warren Truss' bridges used on the NSW railway system.

RailCorp has decided to move both flights of stairs, 28 metres of deck and trestles to the rail museum where it will be erected to replace a temporary level crossing.

As part of Abigroup's design and construction of the freeway, pedestrian access to and from East Albury will be improved with new pedestrian bridges at Dean and Amatex Streets. In addition, the Station Footbridge will be extended across the freeway.

08 September 2005



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