

Browns Gap Road widening and upgrade

The shoulder widening project along four kilometres of Browns Gap Road, initiated by Lithgow City Council and funded through the RTA's Blackspot Program, is expected to take less than two weeks, with minimal disruption to commuters.

Lithgow City Council's operations manager Stephen Darlington said council was delighted to be working with the civil contracting and road maintenance company, Sharpe Bros, in providing much-needed safety improvements to Browns Gap Road.

Sharpe Bros has designed a range of award-winning equipment, including the "Sidewinder" road edging machine, which will enable the project to be completed

in a fraction of the time normally taken.

"A job that would normally take at least a week can be completed in a day at a much lower cost," Mr Sharpe said.

"The usual way of repairing broken edges or widening a road is to dig up a substantial amount of the road before resurfacing, which takes a long time, causes major traffic disruption and is very costly.

"The Sidewinder process, which extends the life of the road and reduces traffic disruption, uses one purpose-built machine to dig a neat trench along the side of the road, and another to fill the excavated trench with hotmix asphalt or even recycled road gravels."