



HORNSBY

Bridge switch begins

Mayor hails opening of new crossing as 'much better experience' for pedestrians

Nigel Gladstone

THE new Hornsby footbridge is officially open but work on it will continue into next year.

Demolition of the old bridge was due "any day now", Hornsby Mayor Steve Russell said.

And the 14,000 pedestrians who use the George St crossing each day were set to enjoy a "much better experience", he said.

"We've been waiting a long time for this and it's very exciting to see it come to fruition," Cr Russell said.

"The old bridge is entirely out of date and does not meet the needs of the community.

"This new bridge is exactly what we need."

Construction of the bridge has not been completed but it has been opened so that the old bridge can be demolished.

"We'll be stopping work to let shopkeepers trade in the busy Christmas period and then we'll start work again in the new year," Cr Russell said.

"They are working on the streetscape now, which is improving the mall.

"Planter boxes are being built and people will see changes over the next six months."

Pedestrians will need to use a ramp attached to the

new bridge while the stairs and elevators are being built. Florence St will remain closed until the demolition and construction is finished.

"This has not been a smooth project, with a number of unexpected delays slowing us down," Cr Russell said.

The Mayor urged people to support local businesses along Florence St while construction continued.



Steve Russell and MP Matt Kean.