

The Hon Michael McCormack MP

Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport
and Regional Development
Leader of The Nationals
Federal Member for Riverina



Senator the Hon Marise Payne

Minister for Foreign Affairs
Minister for Women
Senator for New South Wales

The Hon Paul Toole MP

New South Wales Minister for
Regional Transport and Roads
State Member for Bathurst



Robyn Preston MP

Member for Hawkesbury

MEDIA RELEASE

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New Funding Package to Support Road Safety and Jobs in Hawkesbury

Three unsafe stretches of road in Hawkesbury will receive upgrades as part of a more than \$200,000 funding package being rolled out across New South Wales designed to reduce road trauma, save lives and boost the economy.

The local Hawkesbury projects funded under tranche one of the Road Safety Program include:

- Bells Line of Road, North Richmond shoulder widening, curve alignment markers and wide centreline treatment;
- Bells Line of Road, Kurrajong Heights, at approximately 400- 500m west of Stone Terrace, installation of Vehicle Activated Signs; and
- Macquarie Street, Ross Street and Kable Street intersection, Windsor, proposed upgrade to signalised pedestrian crossing and traffic control signals

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Michael McCormack said the Australian and NSW Governments were working tirelessly to ensure works start immediately and are completed by June to get people home sooner and safer.

“As someone who proudly lives, works and has raised a family in regional NSW, I know just how important safe, efficient road connections are to local communities,” the Deputy Prime Minister said.

“That’s why we are rolling out this funding to deliver lifesaving upgrades including shoulder sealing, rumble strips to alert drivers when they are moving out of their lane, median upgrades to prevent head-on collisions and barriers to prevent run-off-road crashes and protect against roadside hazards.

“This investment won’t just save lives, it will also provide a shot in the arm to local economies as we come back from the COVID-19 recession, with these projects expected to support more than 2,500 direct and indirect jobs.”

NSW Minister for Regional Transport and Roads Paul Toole said safety barriers, rumble strips and wide centrelines were among the measures being rolled out under the program designed to save lives.

“As part of this investment, 261 priority projects will be delivered across NSW – 150 of these on regional roads, building on our vision of a safer, stronger regional NSW,” Mr Toole said.

“These projects will help prevent the loss of more than 538 lives and serious injuries on our roads over the project life – that’s the difference between 538 people making it home safely to their families at the end of the day.”

Liberal Senator for Western Sydney, Senator the Hon Marise Payne, said the investment under tranche one was a part of Australia’s National Economic Recovery Plan.

“Fixing roads is a key part of the Morrison Government’s plan for Hawkesbury because we understand the importance of a safer, more efficient local road network,” Senator Payne said.

“The funding we are delivering targets safety concerns at select pinch points, benefiting motorists, cyclists and residents alike.

“Importantly, each of these road infrastructure projects will also support the Hawkesbury economy as we continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

“The Morrison Government has a strong track record of delivering funding for local road upgrades, with multi-million funding allocations flowing, including from the Roads to Recovery and Black Spot Programs.”

State Member for Hawkesbury, Robyn Preston MP, said both Governments were doing everything possible to get Hawkesbury residents home sooner and safer.

“We know how important these upgrades will be to our local community and that’s why we are funding them” Ms Preston said.

“Upgrading sections of Bells Line of Road and improving the intersection of Macquarie Street, Ross Street and Kable Street will help our local community travel home safely,”

“I am particularly excited that the intersection of Macquarie, Ross and Kable Streets, Windsor will have signalised pedestrian crossing upgrades. It’s a busy intersection and pedestrians often struggle to cross Macquarie Street in time. Changes to these traffic signals will especially benefit our senior citizens and those with mobility issues who will be given more time to cross the street, ensuring a safer experience.” Ms Preston said.

The Australian Government’s funding for the Road Safety Program is subject to ‘use it or lose it’ provisions and will deliver life-saving treatments on regional roads whilst protecting vulnerable road users across NSW. These projects will support local jobs and provide a welcome boost to local economies.

The 'use it or lose it' provisions require States and Territories to use their notionally allocated funds within a timeframe, or the funds can be reallocated to projects in other jurisdictions.

In total, the Australian Government has committed up to \$300 million and the NSW Government a further \$108.2 million to fund the state-wide upgrades under tranche one.

For more information on the Australian Government's road safety initiatives, visit www.officeofroadsafety.gov.au.

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