

ANTHONY ALBANESE PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

ANTHONY ALBANESE MP

PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA

CATHERINE KING MP

MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORT, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

DOMINIC PERROTTET MP

PREMIER OF NSW

NATALIE WARD MLC

NSW MINISTER FOR METROPOLITAN ROADS

HISTORIC ROAD SET FOR CRITICAL SAFETY UPGRADES

One of New South Wales' most historic roads is set for an overhaul, with the Australian Government committing \$100 million for safety works on Bells Line of Road.

The funding will allow for safety upgrades, such as overtaking lanes, making for a safer journey for the thousands of locals and tourists who use the scenic route between the Blue Mountains and Richmond each day.

Stretching from Richmond in the east to Bell in the west, the road was heavily impacted by extreme weather in March 2021 and subsequent bouts of record rainfall.

This funding injection comes as Transport for NSW continues to undertake investigation and repair work following the damaging weather events.

Comments attributable to Prime Minister of Australia Anthony Albanese:

"Bells Line of Road is an important part of the history of Greater Western Sydney, and remains a vital piece of infrastructure for locals, transport operators, and tourists exploring the beautiful Blue Mountains.

"Today's announcement means a safer journey for everyone using Bells Line of Road, and will help ensure its future."

Comments attributable to NSW Premier Dominic Perrottet:

"Bells Line of Road goes through the heart of the beautiful Blue Mountains and is critical to residents who live in this region. Sadly, it has taken an absolute battering from the weather in recent years and is in desperate need of urgent safety upgrades.

"These upgrades will ensure local residents, primary producers and tourists will be able to travel safely along Bells Line of Road into the future.

"This is demonstration of the Commonwealth and the NSW Government working together to deliver world-class and safer roads across our state."

Comments attributable to Federal Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government Minister Catherine King:

"The impacts of extreme weather on Bells Line of Road have taken a serious toll, and the funding we're announcing today will make it safer in the short-term and restore it for the longer term.

"This is another example of the Australian Government working collaboratively with our state counterparts to deliver projects that make a real difference to our communities."

Comments attributable to NSW Minister for Metropolitan Roads Natalie Ward:

"The Bells Line of Road is a critical route over the Blue Mountains, connecting Greater Sydney to regional NSW.

"This upgrade compliments our commitment towards improving safety along this major corridor and supports our plans to upgrade Richmond Bridge for the people of Sydney's North West."

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