



Media Release

David Campbell MP

Minister for Transport

Minister for the Illawarra

REES GOVERNMENT EXPANDS UNANDERRA STATION UPGRADE

The NSW Government has delivered the free Gong Shuttle which is being used by over 7,000 people each week day

Embargoed until Monday 15 June 2009

Minister for Transport and the Illawarra, David Campbell, and Wollongong MP Noreen Hay, today announced that the Unanderra Station upgrade had been expanded to include an accessibility upgrade.

Mr Campbell said an estimated total of \$11.4 million would be spent over two years, with \$2.2 million to be listed in this week's Budget.

"This investment will see the completion of the station building works as well as the start of the accessibility upgrade," Mr Campbell said.

He said construction of Stage 1 of the upgrade would begin this month and included:

- A new platform building and booking office
- New canopies
- Enhanced CCTV
- Improved lighting
- New family accessible toilet
- A power supply upgrade.

"The existing platform building is almost 50 years old and has reached the end of its service life," Mr Campbell said.

"It will be demolished and replaced with a new building which will improve amenities and occupational health and safety standards for passengers and staff.

"An extension of canopies around the new station building will offer more shelter from the sun and rain for customers who are standing on the platform.

"Customers, in particular parents with children, will benefit from a new family accessible toilet. Improved lighting and enhanced CCTV will provide added security for customers."

Mr Campbell said he was proud to confirm that the Stage 2 works, to commence in the first half of 2010, included lifts to ensure the platform was fully accessible.

Member for Wollongong Noreen Hay said the detailed design tender for the Stage 2 accessibility upgrade is currently being assessed and is expected to be awarded later this year.

For further information: **Suzie Brady – 0411 104 339**

Ms Hay said the accessibility works would include:

- 3 new lifts
- Canopies over the lift entries
- Platform extension to enable access to the new platform lift
- CCTV to monitor the lifts.

Ms Hay paid tribute to community members who had lobbied her and was pleased that her hard work in fighting for this work had paid off with this funding announcement.

“The station improvements are great news for rail commuters and will hopefully encourage more people on the South Coast to use public transport,” Ms Hay said.

“The works at Unanderra Station highlight the Rees Government’s commitment to improving station facilities for the local community.”