

# DELIVERING THE CENTRAL WEST REGIONAL TRANSPORT PLAN ANNUAL UPDATE 2014-15

## MINISTERS' MESSAGE

Regional NSW is the backbone of this state. Its varied geography, demographics, employment, industries and environment provides a great tapestry of opportunity and diversity.

At the core of keeping these communities moving is transport. Between December 2013 and April 2014, the NSW Government released ten *Regional Transport Plans*.

The *Plans* provide a blueprint for the future of transport in the ten regions, including the Central West, and set a strategic direction for the delivery of transport infrastructure and services in the State's regions over the next 20 years.

Importantly, the *Plans* support the implementation of the *NSW Long Term Transport Master Plan* which sets the strategic framework to guide transport decision making in NSW.

This Government is committed to keeping the community informed of our progress and this Annual Update on the *Central West Regional Transport Plan* highlights our major achievements in delivering key projects and services for the region in 2014-15.

In 2014-15 in the Central West region we spent \$19.8 million through the Traffic Management and Road Safety Program, delivered an interchange upgrade at Lithgow and spent \$5.3 million upgrading the region's bridges.

In support of our commitment to align and integrate transport and land use planning in NSW, we have also been working closely with, and providing input to, the Department of Planning & Environment's *Regional Plans*, so that transport services and infrastructure is coordinated for our regions and centres that are growing strongly.

We know there is always more to do. We will continue to build on these achievements, ensuring that Central West residents have access to high quality roads and efficient, safe and customer-focused public transport services well into the future.

**Andrew Constance**  
Minister for Transport  
and Infrastructure

**Duncan Gay**  
Minister for Roads,  
Maritime and Freight



## IN THE CENTRAL WEST WE:

### Road Network Maintenance Program

- Spent \$69.2 million on upgrading and maintaining 2720 km of major roads in the Central West region.
- Spent \$5.3 million on upgrading and maintaining 623 bridges in the region.
- Provided \$374,000 to local councils in the region to assist with road restoration after natural disaster damage and \$24.7 million for maintenance and improvement of their road networks.



### Traffic Management and Road Safety Program

- Spent \$19.8 million through the Traffic Management and Road Safety Program.
- Improved journey reliability on the Mitchell Highway north west of Wellington by constructing an overtaking lane.
- Spent \$6 million to complete road safety improvements:
  - On the Newell Highway near Winters Lane south of West Wyalong
  - On Goolma Road within the Mid Western and Wellington Local Government Areas with road widening projects
  - Through road widening on the Newell Highway north of the Burma Road intersection
  - At River Lett Hill with the installation of speed activated signs
  - Through the installation of a safety barrier on sections of the Mitchell and Newell Highways.
- Progressed designs for intersection upgrades in Dubbo at Cobra and Fitzroy Streets; and Whylandra and Victoria Streets.
- Upgraded The Escort Way railway level crossing at Borenore with flashing lights, bells and retro-reflective boom gates with high intensity (LED) lights.



- Undertook development works for a railway level crossing upgrade at Wheelers Lane, Dubbo that will include the installation of flashing lights, bells and retro-reflective boom gates with high intensity (LED) lights.
- Progressed planning for a railway level crossing upgrade at Flagstone Street, Cookamidgera that will include installation of flashing lights, bells and retro-reflective boom gates with high intensity (LED) lights.
- Completed improvements for pedestrians and cyclists:
  - With the construction of a shared path on the western bank of the Lachlan River linking the Erambie Aboriginal Community to the existing bridge adjacent to Cowra CBD.
  - Extended the shared path along Lake Forbes and around the aquatic area.
  - Completed construction of a shared path from the railway crossing to the new hospital in Parkes.
- Progressed intersection improvements at Jenolan Caves Rd and Old Bindo Rd, Hampton.
- Released the final *Newell Highway Corridor Strategy* which will inform and support upgrades to one of regional NSW's busiest and most important road corridors.
- Completed construction of overtaking lanes at the following location as part of the Newell Highway Improvement program:
  - Northbound overtaking lane 56 kilometres north of West Wyalong
  - Southbound overtaking lane 59 kilometres north of West Wyalong
  - Northbound overtaking lane 70 kilometres north of Gilgandra
  - Southbound overtaking lane 15 kilometres north of Parkes
- Released the new *Aboriginal Road Safety Action Plan 2014-2017* which provides more than \$5 million in a package of practical measures to help reduce the road toll in Aboriginal communities.



## NSW Boating Now

- Contributed \$35,000 to support the delivery of two boating projects for the region.
- Upgraded the John Oxley Park boat ramp, Wellington.
- Improved the car parks at Lachlan River Precinct, Cowra and John Oxley Reserve boat ramp, Wellington.



## Transport Infrastructure

- Completed the \$1.66 million upgrade to the Dubbo Rail Triangle to improve access for trains travelling to the north, south and west of the State from the busy central junction point.

## Country Passenger Transport Infrastructure Grant Scheme

- Granted \$92,000 to Dubbo City Council to upgrade six existing bus shelter facilities to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act.
- Granted \$25,180 to Cowra Shire Council for a bus shelter upgrade.
- Granted Cabonne Council \$9,220 for a bus shelter upgrade in Canowindra.
- Installed 10 bus shelters in Forbes, Mudgee and Orange.



## Transport Access Program

- Delivered an interchange and station upgrade at Lithgow that included improved footpaths, new cycle facilities, road repairs along Railway Parade and the installation of canopies.
- Completed an interchange upgrade at Parkes that included a new taxi zone, traffic island and footpaths.
- Converted the existing staff car park at Lithgow to provide customers with 18 additional commuter car parking spaces.



- Progressed planning for an interchange upgrade at Dubbo that will include coach and bus bays, new footpaths and extra commuter parking spots.
- Progressed planning for an interchange upgrade at Orange that will include new CCTV cameras, lighting, pedestrian crossings, family accessible toilets, shelter and kiss and ride.



## Transport Services

- Completed refurbishment at Bathurst train station, as part of the Station Refresh initiative resulting in a cleaner, brighter and safer station.
- Introduced the Station Passenger Information screen at Lithgow station. This screen is the first of its kind to be installed and allows customers to identify their coach services easily and quickly especially when multiple coach services are waiting simultaneously.
- Introduced a coach service from Orange to connect with the Bathurst Bullet service in June 2015, enabling same day returns between Orange and Sydney.
- Deregulated the airline services on the Sydney-Mudgee air route. FlyPelican now offers twice daily return services between Sydney and Mudgee.
- Secured Gate Gourmet as the new catering company for NSW TrainLink who will provide regional customers with local food products and refreshed menus on board regional services.
- Recognised community transport in the State *Passenger Transport Act*, under reforms passed in NSW Parliament, meaning community transport providers will now be accredited and meet the same safety standards as public bus operators, providing greater protection for the community.



## Fixing Country Roads Program

Through the Fixing Country Roads Program, in 2014-15 we contributed:

- \$600,000 for construction of a new 8.4 m wide concrete bridge and 400 m of approaches on Lachlan Road at Carrs Creek, in Bathurst.
- \$2 million for realignment of approximately 2 km of road, and sealing of a further 3.5 km on Errowanbang Road, Panuara Road and Cadia Road in Blayney.
- \$676,300 for sealing of the remaining 10.78 km of gravel sections on Gumble Road, a gazetted B-double route in Cabonne.
- \$317,500 for construction of a two lane concrete bridge on new alignment on Banjo Paterson Way in Cabonne.
- \$96,100 for realignment through the construction of 440 m of road and reconstruction of property access on Banjo Paterson Way in Cabonne.
- \$285,740 for Mitchell Highway and Bunglegumbie Road intersection widening in Dubbo.
- \$1.1 million for the Forbes Northern Heavy Vehicle Route.
- \$400,000 for the replacement of the existing timber bridge with a new wider concrete bridge on Bulgandramine Road in Narromine.
- \$345,000 for Trangie Showground Road upgrade to the Robinson Grain Storage terminal in Narromine.
- \$890,000 for Beaconsfield and Sewell's Creek Road upgrade in Oberon, including increasing road widths and turning radii at key intersections, improving site distances by clearing vegetation from the side of the road and improving the gravel surface.
- \$600,000 for widening The Bogan Way in Parkes between Trundle and Tullamore.



- \$350,000 for upgrading and sealing of approximately 4.2 km of the remaining 17 km of unsealed road on Middle Trundle Road in Parkes.
- \$300,000 for widening and upgrading The Bogan Way at Gunningbland in Parkes.
- \$170,000 for access upgrades at Mugincoble Silos, on The Bogan Way.
- \$1,100,000 for Greenethorpe – Bumbaldry Road upgrade consisting of widening and strengthening of 10.74 km of road and minor adjustments in vertical alignment to improve safety and sight distances in Weddin.
- \$1,050,000 for the widening and realignment of approach curves as well as the replacement of Dripstone Bridge, on Burrendong Way in Wellington.

## Bridges for the Bush

- Completed and opened to traffic the new Gooloogong bridge north of Gooloogong in February 2015. This new bridge replaces the old timber bridge in order to improve road freight productivity and safety.
- Progressed planning for the rehabilitation of the timber truss bridge over Lachlan river at Warroo.
- Progressed planning for the upgrade of McKane's bridge, a timber truss bridge over Cox's River at Lithgow.

