

DELIVERING THE MURRAY-MURRUMBIDGEE 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 Murray-Murrumbidgee, 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 *Murray-Murrumbidgee Regional Transport Plan* highlights our major achievements in delivering key projects and services for the region in 2014-15.

In 2014-15 in the Murray-Murrumbidgee region we spent \$9.7 million through the Traffic Management and Road Safety Program, delivered an interchange upgrade at Albury and upgraded four boat ramps.

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 Murray-Murrumbidgee 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 MURRAY-MURRUMBIDGEE REGION WE:

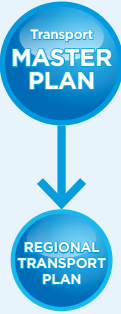
Road Network Maintenance Program

- Spent \$74 million upgrading and maintaining 3196 km of major roads in the region.
- Upgraded and maintained 570 bridges at a cost of \$17.4 million.
- Provided local councils with \$814,000 to assist with road restoration after natural disaster damage and \$32.8 million for maintenance and improvements to their road network.



Traffic Management and Road Safety Program

- Spent \$9.7 million through the Traffic Management and Road Safety Program.
- Spent \$2.3 million to complete road safety improvements including:
 - The installation of raised pavement markers on the Sturt Highway, east of Wagga Wagga, near Mundarlo Road and at locations on the Mid Western Highway between Hay and West Wyalong.
 - Audio tactile line marking was undertaken on the Sturt Highway between Collingullie and Gillenbah.
 - Guardrail and clearzone works on the Hume Highway 6 km south of Tumbarumba Road.
 - Road safety improvement works were also completed at Sutton Road near Gundaroo.
- Made journey reliability improvements at the following intersections:
 - Burley Griffin Way and Allman Street east of Harden
 - Hume Highway and Four Mile Lane near Little Billabong
 - Hume Highway and Keajura Road at Tarcutta
 - Riverina Highway and Yarrawonga Road south of Berrigan
 - Cobb Highway and Deniliquin Road near Dahwilly
 - Sturt Highway and Murray Valley Highway intersection near Euston.



- Improved active transport in Wagga Wagga, Temora, Leeton and Moama with the construction and upgrade of cycleways and provision of pedestrian access facilities.
- Undertook development works for a railway level crossing upgrade at Ebert Street, Griffith with the installation of flashing lights, bells and retro-reflective boom gates with high intensity (LED) lights.
- Made road freight safety and productivity improvements with pavement upgrade works on Gocup Road.
- 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 a northbound overtaking lane 10 kilometres south of Narrandera as part of the Newell Highway Improvement program.
- 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.
- Are planning for the installation of countdown timers to improve pedestrian safety at the following locations:
 - Baylis and Forsyth Street intersection, Wagga Wagga
 - Baylis and Morgan Street intersection, Wagga Wagga
 - Baylis and Tompson Street intersection, Wagga Wagga
 - Dean and Kiewa Street intersection, Albury
 - Dean and David Street intersection, Albury.



Country Passenger Transport Infrastructure Grant Scheme

- Granted \$40,000 to Narrandera Shire Council for a bus shelter upgrade at Grong Grong.
- Awarded \$46,000 to Lockhart Shire Council for an upgrade to a bus interchange at The Rock.
- Allocated \$77,768 to Griffith City Council for the safety upgrade of the CBD taxi shelter.
- Granted \$16,550 to Deniliquin Municipal Council for the Deniliquin taxi rank shelter.



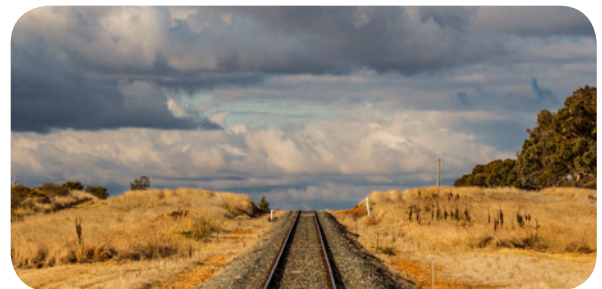
Transport Infrastructure

- Announced \$3.4 million in funding for an extension to the existing Ardlethan grain rail siding by 750 metres to 1,170 metres and for new over-rail loading equipment, to save an expected seven hours in loading time.



Transport Access Program

- Delivered an interchange upgrade at Albury which included the Railway Place Road resurfacing, line marking, construction of kerb and guttering, installation of new signage, landscaping and improvements to footpaths and the existing accessibility parking space.
- Progressed planning for an interchange upgrade at Albury which will include more parking, canopies, upgraded public toilets, pedestrian crossings, signage, as well as CCTV cameras and lighting to improve safety.
- Progressed planning for an interchange upgrade at Wagga Wagga that could include more parking, new accessible kiss and ride and taxi zones, new footpaths, improved customer wayfinding signage and upgraded public toilets.



Transport Services

- Introduced bus services at 30 minute intervals between Albury CBD and North Albury, West Albury and South Albury, improving the frequency of bus services.
- Extended routes 967 and 960 from Estalla to Estalla Rise, a new residential development in Wagga Wagga.
- Introduced an additional morning and evening bus service between Wagga Wagga CBD and Charles Sturt University.
- Established bus services between Wagga Wagga CBD and the Lloyd West new residential development.
- Introduced bus services between Wagga Wagga CBD and new residential development at Governors Hill.
- Granted approval to operate a bus service between Albury CBD and Albury Airport and a bus service between Albury CBD and Canberra.
- 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.



Transport
MASTER
PLAN



REGIONAL
TRANSPORT
PLAN

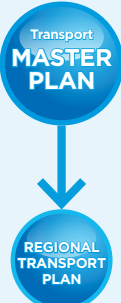
NSW Boating Now

- Contributed over \$530,000 to support the delivery of 11 boating projects for the region.
- Upgraded four boat ramps including the:
 - Mungabareena boat ramp, Albury
 - Lake Hume Resort boat ramp and Bowna Waters Reserve boat ramp, Albury
 - Tilpa Bridge boat ramp, Central Darling
 - Rocky Waterholes boat ramp, Narrandera.
- Released the *Murray-Riverina Regional Boating Plan* identifying priority boating safety, access and storage actions for the next five years.

Fixing Country Roads Program

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

- \$344,000 for Euston Prungle Road access upgrade, including extending the bitumen seal link and reforming the existing gravel surface north of the Sturt Highway to a common intersection at Benanee; and improved safety signage, line-marking and guideposts in Balranald.
- \$2,500,000 for the upgrade of Silo Road, Tocumwal including the realignment of junctions, strengthening of the road base, widening and installation of queuing lanes and drainage works on Silo Road in Berrigan.
- \$660,000 for Box Creek Bridge replacement on Pretty Pine Road which will involve replacing the Bridge over Box Creek to widen the deck, allowing two vehicle access, improving access and reliability in high rainfall events in Conargo Shire.
- \$617,000 for Croker Grain, Marrar for pavement reconstruction on three sections of road to higher mass limit on Eastick Lane and Lyne Street, Marrar South Road (1.5 km) and Canola Way (2.55 km) in Coolamon.



- \$198,000 for Ardlethan Grain Hub, for a structural assessment of the culvert structures and pavement and stabilising of pavement on Bygoo Rd/Kamarah Tank Road and Mullins St in Coolamon.
- \$75,000 for reconstruction of the access road Hodges Lane in Coolamon.
- \$417,000 for reconstruction of 1 km of Ardlethan Road, 2.3 km of Coolamon Road and, in partnership with Wagga Wagga City Council, a further 1.8 km of Coolamon Road in Coolamon and Wagga Wagga.
- \$350,000 for sealing of Sutton's Lane (3.2 km), part of the over-height vehicle detour to the Olympic Highway in Cootamundra Shire.
- \$245,000 for bridge widening and approach road realignment on Hopefield Road Bridge in Corowa.
- \$1,575,000 for Deniliquin Industrial Area local road upgrade.
- \$750,000 for Upper Murray Industry Access Project which will open up Jingellic Road to B-doubles in the Greater Hume Shire.
- \$650,000 for the upgrade of the Jones Road and Boorga Road intersection, Griffith.
- \$1,046,000 for the replacement of Gobarralong Bridge, Gundagai.
- \$350,000 for survey, design, construction and sealing of 1.75 km of Cunningar Road in Harden Shire.
- \$1,204,000 for widening, sealing of Combaning Road, Junee.
- \$667,000 for The Rock Road upgrade including replacement of a major culvert and increasing the width and strength of the road pavement along Urana Street and The Rock Road, Lockhart.
- \$526,000 for Old Cootamundra Road, Temora.



- \$1,300,000 for Boree Creek Freight Link including pavement reconstruction, construction of grain silo internal road, and reconstruction and seal of Hume Street from Boree Creek Road to grain silos, Eades Street between Hume Street in Urana.
- \$800,000 for replacement of three timber bridges in Wakool:
 - Merran Creek/Officers Road Bridge
 - Mallan Creek/Coobool Island Road Bridge
 - Merran Creek/Coobool Siding Road Bridge.
- \$1,112,576 for the upgrade of Milvale Road, Young Shire.
- \$535,000 for replacement of the Burrangong Creek timber bridge on Bribbaree Road, Young.
- \$500,000 for realignment of Byrnes Road, Harefield.



Bridges for the Bush

- Commenced construction on replacing the bridge over the main southern railway line at Kapooka in conjunction with the Australian Government through the Bridges for the Bush program.
- Partnered with VicRoads and local councils to progress planning on the replacement of the Murray River bridge at Tooleybuc.
- Continued to support Wakool Shire Council with the planning for the replacement of Gee Gee Bridge. The bridge is located on the road between Swan Hill in Victoria and Deniliquin in NSW and is a strategic freight route.
- Completed and opened to traffic the upgraded Carrathool Road Bridge across the Murrumbidgee River in April 2015. The upgraded bridge provides freight and safety improvements to motorists.



*Photos courtesy of Roads and Maritime Services, NSW Trains and Transport for NSW.