

# DELIVERING THE WESTERN 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 Western, 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 *Western Regional Transport Plan* highlights our major achievements in delivering key projects and services for the region in 2014-15.

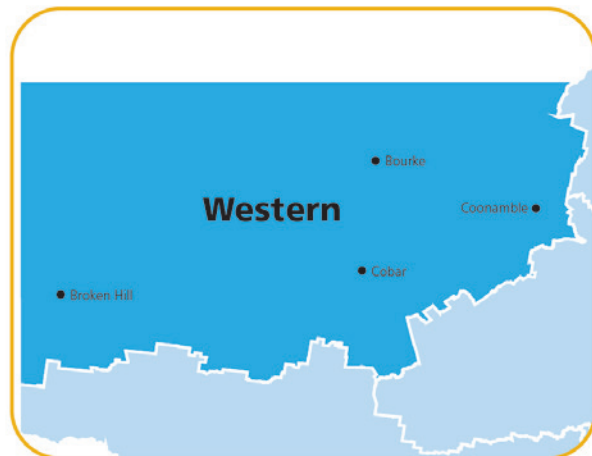
In 2014-15 in the Western region we spent \$1.34 million through the Traffic Management and Road Safety Program and provided local councils with \$16.4 million for maintenance and improvement of their road networks.

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 Western 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 WESTERN REGION WE:

### Road Network Maintenance Program

- Spent \$38 million upgrading and maintaining 6000 km of major roads in the region.
- Upgraded and maintained 384 bridges in the region at a cost of \$3.8 million.
- Provided local councils within the region over \$500,000 to assist with road restoration after natural disaster damage and \$16.4 million for maintenance and improvement of their road networks.



### Traffic Management and Road Safety Program

- Spent \$1.34 million through the Traffic Management and Road Safety Program.
- Spent \$540,000 to complete construction of an active transport shared path from Brewarrina to the Brewarrina West Aboriginal Community.
- 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 \$54,000 to support the upgrade of the boat launching site at Tilpa, works included the construction of a single lane concrete boat ramp and associated access.

### Country Passenger Transport Infrastructure Grant Scheme

- Installed seven bus shelters in Coonamble and Nevertire.



## Transport Infrastructure

- Announced \$2.9 million in funding to extend the current grain loop at Nevertire by 750 metres to 1,215 metres, allowing a 600 metre train to load in a single pass at the existing GrainCorp site. It is expected these improvements will save between five and seven hours in loading time.
- Completed a \$4.7 million upgrade to a section of Silver City Highway at Shannons Creek to the north of Broken Hill to double as an airstrip for the Royal Flying Doctors Service. The upgrade would improve access to medical care in the case of emergencies.

## Transport Services

- 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:

- \$700,000 for the reconstruction of Kangaroo Springs floodway on Hermidale Road/ Whitbarrow Way, Cobar.
- \$319,900 for Acres Billabong Tilpa, including the construction of culverts that are major flood proof on Tiltagoona Road, Cobar.
- \$450,000 for replacement and culvert repairs on Pilliga Rd, Coonamble.
- \$165,000 for the reseal of Railway Street saleyards access in Coonamble.
- \$1,116,000 for sealing of Bugilbone Road in Walgett between Burren Junction and Pilliga, including the sealing of two 3 km sections on Bugilbone Road between Pilliga and Burren Junction. Works form part of a larger infrastructure plan involving upgrading the route between Coonabarabran, Pilliga and Mungindi across Walgett, Warrumbungle and Narrabri local government areas.
- \$819,000 for the upgrade of Gundabloui Road north of Collarenebri in Walgett, including sealing an additional 5 km of Gundabloui Road between Collarenebri and Mungindi. Works form part of a larger infrastructure plan involving upgrading the route between Coonabarabran, Pilliga and Mungindi across Walgett, Wurrumbungle and Narrabri local government areas.



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

