

## **Berry Bypass Community Review Group**

### **Design options for the proposed Princes Highway bypass of Berry**

In response to the Member for Kiama, Gareth Ward's recent announcement that the RTA would develop new design options for the proposed Princes Highway bypass of Berry, a community review group was established.

On Wednesday 24 August 2011 the group held their first discussion with around 20 residents who are actively involved in this issue.

The discussion was robust and constructive, with the group committed to understanding the diverse range of issues and impacts, and achieving the best outcome for the community.

The first meeting established how this group felt it should operate and making sure all interests are involved. The group briefly discussed their concerns, with the main discussion focussed on the process from here forward. The group decided to meet fortnightly as part of this intensive planning process until the end of the year.

The next meeting will focus on the range of technical issues, RTA investigations to date and the decision making process to refine this alignment of the bypass. The group agreed that gaining an appreciation of the different perspectives and issues on the various potential alignments in this area was essential.

The group noted that the preferred route to the north of town was finalised and announced in 2009. This current process is about establishing the preferred route within the identified study area, taking into account impacts on the community.

The group appreciated this is a period of anxiety and uncertainty for the community and established that at several points, information and questions will be put to the whole Berry community.

To avoid the dissatisfaction that is created by 'no information', a statement will be provided on the RTA website after each meeting and published in local newspapers.

25 August 2011