

Jenny Aitchison

Minister for Roads

Minister for Regional Transport



Media Release

Major milestone for Parkes Bypass

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The Minns Labor Government is continuing work to strengthen regional communities by investing in key road and transport connections, with the \$287.2 million Parkes Bypass project reaching a major milestone that has immediately changed the way people move around and through the Central West.

Traffic moved onto the new Parkes Bypass on Tuesday, with Minister for Roads Jenny Aitchison today driving along the new 10.5-kilometre section of the Newell Highway that has been built to allow motorists to bypass Parkes.

Jointly funded by the NSW and Commonwealth Governments, this project will increase road safety and freight efficiency, and support connectivity for the region with up to 1,200 trucks per day being removed from local streets.

With the entire upgrade to the network to support Parkes Bypass expected to be completed over the coming months, the following traffic changes will remain in place for up to three months:

- The main access between Parkes and the Bypass will be the Condobolin Road roundabout, which opened to traffic in all four directions on April 15.
- Access to and from the Bypass will also be possible from London Road, however, this access will be under temporary traffic controls.
- Sections of the existing Newell Highway will be restricted at the north and south ends of Parkes:
 - North: The existing Newell Highway will be closed between the rest area and Maguire Road. Southbound vehicles will be able to access Parkes via Bogan Road while northbound vehicles will use the bypass from the Condobolin Road roundabout.
 - South: The existing Newell Highway will be closed between Saleyards Road and Barkers Road.
- The Over Sized Over Mass (OSOM) route will be the new Parkes Bypass.
- Heavy vehicles wishing to travel east will be required to travel on the state road network MR61 (Hartigan Avenue extension).

Information on the Parkes Bypass Project can be found at

www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/current-projects/parkes-bypass

For the latest traffic information, visit www.livetraffic.com, download the Live Traffic app or call the Transport Management Centre on 132 701.

Senator for NSW, Deborah O'Neill:

"The Australian Government is investing in the future of regional New South Wales, contributing 80% of the funding for the Parkes Bypass as part of our \$1.5 billion commitment to upgrading the Newell Highway."

"The Parkes Bypass is a key part of our vision for a stronger, safer and more connected Newell Highway, and this is just one of many upgrades delivering lasting benefits for local families, farmers and freight operators."

"This milestone marks real progress, not just for Parkes but for the entire Central West, with safer roads, better freight connections, and less congestion through town."

Minister for Roads, Jenny Aitchison said:

"It's fantastic to reach this milestone which will not only increase connectivity for the region but also improve road safety."

"We want to strengthen our regional communities by ensuring they have the infrastructure they need to get them where they need to go safely and efficiently, this project is a big step in that direction for the local community."

"Thank you to all of the workers who made this possible and will now start on three months of finishing works."

Member for Orange, Phil Donato said:

"The Parkes Bypass has been a large road infrastructure undertaking, and now that it's officially open, will certainly deliver enhanced road transport efficiencies and increased road user safety."

This new road will improve freight linkages to and from local industry developed in the Special Activation Precinct, and well as intermodal linkage with rail."

"Thank you to all involved in making this Newell Highway upgrade a reality, and to Minister Aitchison and her departmental team for overseeing delivery of this project."

Labor Duty MLC for Orange and Dubbo, Stephen Lawrence said:

"As a Dubbo resident I know the importance of getting trucks out of the centre of our towns. This by pass is a win for road safety, town amenity and freight efficiency with up to 1,200 trucks per day being removed from the streets of Parkes. Well done to all involved, I look forward to full completion of the project in coming months".

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