Michael Johnsen, Member for Upper Hunter today reminded the local community to have a say on route options for a future New England Highway bypass of Singleton before comments close on Friday 23 October.

Roads and Maritime Services has been carrying out a route options assessment since November last year to select the preferred corridor for the bypass.

Mr Johnsen said comments are now invited on the shortlisted options which will be considered in further investigations.

“The NSW Government has committed $92 million toward the upgrade under Rebuilding NSW including $1 million this financial year to continue assessing bypass options and community consultation to help select the preferred route,” Mr Johnsen said.

“The New England Highway is used by more than 25,000 vehicles a day through Singleton and is a major freight and commuter route forming part of the National Land Transport Network.”

Mr Johnsen said the selected route for the bypass would aim to ensure the efficient operation of the New England Highway and the surrounding road network, as well as improve safety, traffic flow and reduce congestion through the town centre.

“A bypass would also improve access for regional NSW and support the growth, efficiency and productivity of the freight industry,” Mr Johnsen continued.

“The preferred option for the bypass is expected to be displayed for further comment in the second half of next year.

“Roads and Maritime will continue to keep the community and stakeholders informed as the project progresses,” Mr Johnsen concluded.

Members of the community can view the bypass options at public displays at the Singleton Motor Registry on weekdays between 9am and 4pm and the Singleton Library on weekdays between 9am and 8pm and Saturdays between 9am to 12pm.

The community are invited to provide feedback by Friday 23 October by emailing singleton.bypass@rms.nsw.gov.au or phoning 1800 991 254 during business hours.

For more information please visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au.