Thursday, 22 June 2017

COMMUNITY REPORT ON M1 EXTENSION PLAN

Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter Scot MacDonald MLC has encouraged the community to view the consultation report for the future extension of the M1 Pacific Motorway to the Pacific Highway at Raymond Terrace.

Mr MacDonald said the M1 Pacific Motorway and Pacific Highway are critical links in the National Land Transport Network and among the busiest transport corridors in Australia.

“The NSW Government is providing more than $5 million this financial year to continue planning in addition to $7 million provided last financial year,” Mr MacDonald said.

“Community feedback was invited in August and September last year on changes to the revised concept design.

“These included refinements such as a motorway exit ramp south of Heatherbrae to improve access to businesses and a free flowing interchange at Tomago to replace the previously proposed roundabout design.

“A separate road to the Hunter Region Botanic Gardens was also proposed to provide safe access via Old Punt Road.

“Roads and Maritime Services thanks the community and stakeholders for providing feedback on the proposed design which involves building 15 kilometres of new motorway with two lanes in each direction, bypassing Hexham and Heatherbrae.”

Mr MacDonald said 48 submissions were received raising issues including the impact to businesses, timing and funding of the project, general access, access to the Botanic Gardens, signage and line marking.

“Consultation will continue as the concept design and environmental assessment are progressed.”

The report contains Roads and Maritime response to the issues raised during the display and can be viewed or downloaded online at www.rms.nsw.gov.au/m1rt.