Have your say:
Community invited to Scone Bypass drop-in sessions

THE community has been invited to provide feedback on the concept design and environmental assessment for the proposed New England Highway bypass, and strategic design options for the Scone town centre rail bridge.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development Warren Truss said the Australian and NSW government-funded proposal would provide much needed improvements to traffic conditions in the area.

“The Australian and New South Wales governments are providing $90 million to build the bypass and town centre rail bridge at Scone to improve traffic flow, travel times and safety for road users,” Mr Truss said.

NSW Minister for Roads Duncan Gay said the bypass would remove 3,500 vehicles per day from local roads in the Scone town centre, improving safety and traffic flow.

“The New England Highway is an important route for freight vehicles and this bypass will improve freight productivity by reducing travel time and cutting freight costs,” Mr Gay said.

Nationals Duty Senator for Hunter John Williams said the proposed future upgrade of the New England Highway will also help address rising road and rail volumes.

“The highway south of Scone currently carries 8,400 vehicles a day, peaking in town at 14,000. This bypass aims to ease congestion and reduce safety risks in the area,” Senator Williams said.

NSW Member for Upper Hunter Michael Johnsen said the environmental assessment for the Scone bypass helped determine the potential environmental and social impacts of the proposal, and identify activities to manage them.

“We will certainly be managing any potential issues to ensure the best possible outcome for the local community. Community members are invited to attend drop-in sessions to speak with the project team and to learn more about the bypass,” Mr Johnsen said.
Drop-in sessions will take place on Thursday 4 February between 3pm and 7pm and Friday 5 February between 10am and 2pm at the Scone Motor Inn. Feedback is invited by 19 February and will be considered when finalising the concept design and environmental assessment.


The documents can also be viewed on weekdays between 9am and 4pm at Upper Hunter Shire Council. Copies of the project update detailing the concept design for the bypass and the strategic options for the town centre rail bridge are also available.

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