Monday, 28 November 2016

$50 MILLION MAJOR OXLEY HIGHWAY UPGRADE WELL UNDERWAY

The NSW Government is investing $50 million for upgrades along the length of the Oxley Highway, a key link between the coast and the state’s North West and work is well underway to deliver a better road surface and additional overtaking lanes.

Minister for Roads and Freight Duncan Gay and Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Roads and member for Tamworth Kevin Anderson inspected work on the $1.7 million extension of an existing westbound overtaking lane, 29 kilometres east of Gunnedah near Rushes Creek Road.

“The communities along the length of the Oxley Highway have made it clear they want more overtaking lanes and improvement works along its length and have been calling for these upgrades for years,” Mr Gay said.

“We have listened and we are delivering what these communities expect and deserve – with a number of projects now under way or currently in planning.”

Mr Anderson said this stretch of highway was notoriously dangerous and these upgrades were vital for the people and businesses that use this road to link Tamworth with the North West.

“Ramping up the upgrade of the Oxley Highway was an election commitment of mine so it’s great to see work progressing.

“Plans are also being developed to build a new eastbound overtaking lane about 24 kilometres east of Gunnedah, with work expected to start in the first half of 2017,” Mr Anderson said.

“A range of projects have been completed this year along the Oxley Highway, delivering on our promise to provide safe and reliable journeys.”

The $50 million commitment is in addition to the $10 million the NSW Government has already invested to implement recommendations from the Oxley Highway Route Safety Review.

The Oxley Highway stretches 514 kilometres, starting on the mid north coast of NSW at Port Macquarie and extending west to connect with the inland centres of Tamworth, Gunnedah, Coonabarabran, Gilgandra and Warren.