Safety improvements on the Kings Highway near Braidwood are a step closer with the tree management plan submissions report available to be viewed on the website.

John Barilaro said this is great news for the community as the work would improve safety for motorists and aims to reduce the number and severity of crashes on two sections of the highway.

“The two sections include a 3.8 kilometre section to the east of Braidwood and a 1.8 kilometre stretch to the north,” Mr Barilaro said.

“In the five years to 2013 there were 17 crashes on these sections of road which included five fatalities involving roadside hazards, making improvement work a priority.

“The publication of the tree management plan submissions report is an important step in the planning process. The report looks at issues related to long term management and maintenance of the avenue of trees along the sections of the Kings Highway on the northern and eastern approaches to Braidwood.

“The tree management plan involved careful consideration of the results of a comprehensive study on the key issues relating to tree management and road safety.

“The plan includes technical recommendations for managing the existing avenue of trees as well as new tree plantings.

“RMS recognises the existing trees are nearing the end of their life and proposes the planting of an avenue of new trees in a safer location in the near future, to ensure the tree lined avenue remains.

“RMS thanks the community for their interest and feedback on this project.

“RMS will continue to work with the community to investigate and develop options to reduce the impact on the environment and the community before work starts later this year.

“The NSW Government has allocated $1.2 million in the 2013-14 budget for the improvements.

“The community can keep up to date on the project’s website as more information becomes available." Mr Barilaro said

To view the submissions report or to learn more about the project visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au.

Media: Melissa McLaren 62994899