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M1 TO RAYMOND TERRACE PROPOSAL CONSULTATION REPORT PUBLISHED

The future extension of the M1 Pacific Motorway to the Pacific Highway at Raymond Terrace is moving forward with the community invited to view the consultation report.

Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter, Scot MacDonald MLC said the NSW Government committed $200 million under Rebuilding NSW including $3 million this financial year to get the project ready for construction.

“Planning started in October 2004 and has involved an extensive community consultation program to identify a preferred route and develop a concept design,” Mr MacDonald said.

“The proposed upgrade includes providing 15 kilometres of motorway with two lanes in each direction, bypassing Hexham and Heatherbrae, with new interchanges at Black Hill, Tarro, Tomago Road and north of Heatherbrae.

“The proposed upgrade also includes a 2.6 kilometre bridge across Woodlands Close, the Main Northern Railway, New England Highway and the Hunter River.”

Mr MacDonald thanked the community for providing feedback on the revised design in October and November last year and encouraged the community to view the consultation report.

“The 47 submissions received during the public display raised issues including timing of the project, access to Heatherbrae, impacts to the existing road network, traffic impacts and the revised alignment,” Mr MacDonald said.

“These issues will be considered to finalise the concept design and prepare the environmental assessment, which is expected to be displayed for community and stakeholder feedback next year.

“Changes to access arrangements between Tomago and Raymond Terrace are currently being investigated in response to community feedback and Roads and Maritime will consult stakeholders and the community on any major changes.
“Timing for major work is not confirmed and is dependent on planning approval, future traffic needs and funding availability.”

The community feedback report is available at [www.rms.nsw.gov.au/m1rt](http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/m1rt)

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