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INVESTIGATION WORK CONTINUES FOR NEW MOUNT OUSLEY INTERCHANGE

Parliamentary Secretary for the Illawarra and South Coast Gareth Ward said that geotechnical investigation work will start next week as planning work continues for a new interchange on the M1 Princes Motorway at Mount Ousley.

Mr Ward said that the New South Wales Government allocated $1 million in the 2016-17 State Budget to continue planning for the proposal to improve motorists’ safety and journey times on the M1 Princes Motorway.

“Investigations including biodiversity, noise and survey work were carried out late last year,” he said.

“As part of the concept design and environmental assessment process, Roads and Maritime Services will be carrying out geotechnical investigation work within the proposal study area.

“The information gathered will help in developing the design for the proposal and work involves drilling boreholes and digging test pits to investigate ground conditions.

“These investigations are expected to take five weeks to complete from Monday 20th February, weather permitting.

“Work will be carried out on weekdays between 7am and 6pm and on Saturdays from 8am to 1pm,” he said.

“Traffic control will be in place if required and access to private properties will be maintained.

“At times there will be some restricted parking within the commuter carpark as part of this work and signs will be placed in the carpark to inform users of work dates.

“Every effort will be made to minimise the impact of noise for local residents.

“The project will see the existing intersection at the base of Mount Ousley Road replaced with a new interchange which includes an additional access point to the
University of Wollongong.

“The project aims to improve safety, freight efficiency, reduce traffic congestion and provide improved pedestrian and cyclist facilities,” he said.

“The preferred option includes a northbound overpass from Mount Ousley Road onto the M1 and separated truck bypass lanes on the M1.

“Cars and trucks would be separated on the M1 at the bottom of Mount Ousley, allowing traffic to exit the motorway without having to merge across slower moving traffic,” Mr Ward concluded.