Joint Media Statement

September 8, 2014

Community comment sought on Tourle Street Upgrade

FEEDBACK is sought on the concept design and review of environmental factors for the upgrade of Tourle Street and Cormorant Road at Kooragang, now on display.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development Warren Truss said the upgrade is designed to improve traffic flow and cater for traffic growth and urban development.

“The Australian and New South Wales governments have each committed $51.9 million to plan and construct the upgrade,” Mr Truss said.

New South Wales Minister for Roads and Freight Duncan Gay said New South Wales Roads and Maritime Services would continue to work with the community and stakeholders during the planning process to identify issues and minimise potential impacts of the proposed upgrade and construction activities.

“About 33,000 vehicles use the corridor each day, including more than 3000 heavy vehicles,” Mr Gay said.

“Stakeholders and the community are invited to comment on the review of environmental factors between Monday, 8 September and Monday, 6 October.”

Federal Member for Paterson Bob Baldwin said the review of environmental factors has assessed the potential impacts of the proposal and identifies ways to manage and mitigate these impacts.

“The review was carried out in consultation with a range of key stakeholders, including technical specialists, and considered feedback received from the community in response to the display of the preferred option in November 2013,” Mr Baldwin said.

“The investigations found the proposal is not likely to have a significant impact on the environment with the implementation of a range of environmental mitigation and management measures.”

A display outlining information from the review of environmental factors can be viewed on weekdays from 9am to 4pm at the Newcastle New South Wales Roads and Maritime Services office, Nelson Bay motor registry, Port Stephens Council or Newcastle City Council.

Community updates are also available at these locations. The documents are available on the project website at www.rms.nsw.gov.au.

Media Contacts

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<tr>
<th>For Mr Truss:</th>
<th>Brett Heffernan</th>
<th>0467 650 020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For Mr Gay:</td>
<td>Marie Scoutas</td>
<td>0467 739 976</td>
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