Joint Media Statement

20 December 2016

KING GEORGES ROAD INTERCHANGE WRAPPED UP FOR CHRISTMAS

Motorists from Sydney’s south-west travelling on the M5 and taking the King Georges Road exit will enjoy a newly upgraded $130 million interchange before Christmas, delivered two months ahead of schedule.

NSW Roads Minister Duncan Gay said the interchange is the first completed WestConnex project - a huge milestone in building a new motorway network for Sydney.

“This vital enabling project for WestConnex, which has helped to create 900 jobs during construction, now has on and off ramps to the M5 widened and extended by 180 metres, doubling traffic capacity and easing congestion along King Georges Road,” Mr Gay said.

“Tens of thousands of people in south-west Sydney hitting the road this holiday season will start to see the benefits of our historic investments in road infrastructure and there’s plenty more to come.”

The King Georges Road Interchange upgrade will help benefit almost half of the 100,000 motorists who use the M5 every day, providing a connection to the existing M5 East and the New M5 twin underground tunnels, which will run for nine kilometres, between Kingsgrove and St Peters.

The New M5 tunnels will run roughly in parallel to the existing M5 East, more than doubling traffic capacity along the corridor, and halving the time it takes for motorists to get from Beverly Hills to St Peters down to a ten-minute trip.

Federal Member for Banks David Coleman said a Commonwealth Government concessional loan of up to $2 billion, has ensured construction of the WestConnex New M5 was fast-tracked, and allowed work at King Georges Road Interchange upgrade to also start early.

“While the full benefits of the interchange upgrade will be realised when the New M5 opens to traffic in 2020, motorists usually banked up on a congested King Georges Road will start seeing immediate improvement, with the lengthened on ramps to the M5 reducing queuing and improving the flow of traffic at this notorious bottleneck,” Mr Coleman said.

State Member for Oatley Mark Coure said motorists will see the finishing touches for the project applied in the coming month including landscaping scheduled to be completed early 2017.

“The upgrade also included extending the Coolangatta Road Bridge to accommodate the extended ramps between King Georges Road and the M5 East,” Mr Coure said.