Gareth Ward MP
State Member for Kiama

MEDIA RELEASE

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NEW ACCESS ROADS CONFIRMED FOR GERRINGONG UPGRADE

Member for Kiama Gareth Ward has today announced that five new access roads will be built on the Princes Highway upgrade between Mount Pleasant and Toolijooa Road.

“The access roads will provide safer travel for local residents onto and off the highway and have been included following a review of the earlier proposed property accesses under the Gerringong upgrade,” Mr Ward said.

“A review was carried out independently to see whether additional access roads to those which were on public display were necessary,” he said.

“The RTA review involved specialists from the NSW Centre for Road Safety and independent senior road designers,” Mr Ward said.

“While the upgrade will bring a range of benefits to the community, it is vital local concerns are addressed and safety is improved.

“This is great news for the community as they have lobbied hard to have additional access roads included in the highway upgrade design,” he said.

“The new Princes Highway upgrade designs which will include the access roads will be subject to property owner consultation,” Mr Ward said.

The access roads are planned for:

- Immediately south of the Mount Pleasant Lookout;
- Adjacent to Rose Valley Road;
- South of Omega Lane;
- Between Sims Road and Belinda Street; and
- Adjacent to the pottery near Toolijooa Road

Mr Ward said these access roads will improve safety and separate local and highway traffic when the new route opens.

“Extensive consultation will continue with the community as the designs progress, in particular with property owners on or near the access roads,” he said.
The 2011-2012 NSW Budget allocated $25 million to complete essential prebuilding activities including detailed concept designs for the Gerringong upgrade.

The RTA is now assessing tenders to carry out the detailed design and build of the upgrade.

The successful tender is expected to be announced before the end of 2011.