MEDIA RELEASE

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CLOSURE OF CAMERON PARK ROUNDABOUT FOR TWO WEEKENDS

Work is progressing well on the project to upgrade six key intersections between the F3 Freeway and Newcastle, with Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) starting work next month to upgrade the Cameron Park roundabout.

The Nationals Duty MLC for Cessnock Trevor Khan said $10 million has been provided to start work on the intersection upgrades this financial year.

“The Hunter Expressway is scheduled to open to traffic in 2013 and traffic along the main route between the F3 Freeway and Newcastle is expected to increase,” Mr Khan said.

“Six intersections along the route will be upgraded and work has already started on three of them.

“The upgrade at the Newcastle Link Road, Cameron Park Drive and Woodford Street intersection includes removing the roundabout and replacing it with traffic lights. The lights would be switched on before the opening of the Hunter Expressway.

“To allow work to start on this intersection upgrade, the roundabout will be closed to all traffic for two weekends in May.

“Earlier this year RMS consulted with the community about the proposed intersection closure and a majority of the responses supported full closure of the roundabout for the two weekends.

“This intersection upgrade will be carried out by the Hunter Expressway Alliance, which is building the nearby 13 kilometre eastern section of the Hunter Expressway.

“As part of the Hunter Expressway project the northbound F3 Freeway exit ramp to the Newcastle Link Road was closed in August 2011.

“The first stage of the Cameron Park roundabout upgrade includes widening the Newcastle Link Road, earthwork and drainage work. This stage needs to be completed for the new exit ramp to operate effectively when it opens to traffic in August.

“The second stage will include the installation of the traffic lights and is expected to start in late 2012,” Mr Khan said.

The full closures are scheduled to take place from 7pm on Friday 4 May to 5am on Monday 7 May and from 7pm on Friday 18 May to 5am on Monday 21 May.

As part of this work, the southbound entry and exit ramps to the F3 Freeway will be closed as well as Cameron Park Drive, Newcastle Link Road and Woodford Street near the roundabout.

The closures will have no effect to through traffic on the F3 Freeway and the Cardiff exit and entry ramps will still be in operation.
If wet weather prevents the work from going ahead the closures will be rescheduled until the last weekend of May and the first weekend of June. The community will be notified if there is a change in dates.

RMS apologises for the inconvenience and appreciates the patience of motorists.

A map detailing alternative routes around the intersection is available on the project website.

Motorists are advised to plan their journey, allow extra travel time and obey all signs.

For more information about the project visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au and follow the links to the Hunter Expressway project or phone toll free 1800 001 267.