

MEDIA RELEASE

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Approved by: Cr Kevin Beatty, Chair of Central NSW Joint Organisation, Mayor of Cabonne Council

Central NSW Councils supports the recent extended tunnel announcement – the longer the better

The Chair of Central NSW Councils, Cr Kevin Beatty is very supportive of the recent announcement linking the two tunnels on the western side of the Blue Mountains.

"A safe swift and secure link between Sydney and Central NSW remains a priority for our communities," said Cr Kevin Beatty, Mayor of Cabonne Council and Chair of the Central NSW Joint Organisation.

"Tunnels are a way to separate people from trucks and recognise the challenges of the Blue Mountains topography and environmental value," said Cr Beatty.

"This region thanks the Government for its commitment of \$4.6bn towards the project that will give an additional 67km of dual carriageway and greater safety especially for emergency vehicles," said Cr Beatty.

"The safety, time and productivity benefits are so important for our visitors, our freight and for us as we travel to and from Sydney," said Cr Beatty.

"Reducing congestion is a key component of the upgrades planned between Katoomba and Lithgow. It has to work for the communities of the Blue Mountains. It is always a balance where safety comes first," said Cr Beatty.

"This is a very big opportunity and the Mayors of the region are keen to ensure that we realise every part of it," said Cr Beatty.

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For media enquiry contact CNSWJO Chair, Cr Kevin Beatty 0439 506 596