



CENTRAL NSW
JOINT ORGANISATION

MEDIA RELEASE

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Approved by: Cr John Medcalf OAM, Chair of Central NSW Joint Organisation, Mayor of Lachlan Shire Council

Central NSW Joint Organisation loves tunnels. The longer the better!

Central NSW Joint Organisation Chair Cr John Medcalf OAM, Mayor of Lachlan Shire Council is delighted to see the announcements overnight from Minister Paul Toole for further investigation into a 11 km tunnel from Blackheath to Mount Victoria.

“The Mayors of Central NSW understand the tunnel is an update to the previously announced plan for two separate tunnels and will be toll free. We support the State in its efforts to secure Federal funding to progress this work. This region has always supported tunnels, the longer the better,” Cr Medcalf said.

“We see the traffic jams through the communities of the Blue Mountains and think of our friends and family just trying to go to the shop or worse get an ambulance. We know that the traffic calming solutions being used by TfNSW are not able to address the problems of the holiday weekend traffic. We see the Bells Line washed away and contemplate bush fires. Something must be done and done sooner,” Cr Medcalf said.

“However, this work needs to be considered in the context of the longer term strategy for a safe swift link between Western Sydney and the Central West also enabling the freight task into the new Western Sydney airport and Port of Botany. We need to make a better transport link between the two Wests and there are many considerations in deciding what the ultimate solution will be,” Cr Medcalf said.

“For example, this outstanding work west of Katoomba does not address the challenges east of Katoomba. We have always supported Minister Toole’s vision for a 100km per hour link between the two Wests and are open to all potential solutions that deliver that outcome.” Cr Medcalf said.

ENDS

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