



## MEDIA RELEASE

# Roads to Recovery funding continues in New England

26 May 2017

- The Federal Budget delivers \$16.7 million for Roads to Recovery projects across the New England.
- Investment will support the region's economy, allowing local business owners to get goods to market quicker.

Roads to Recovery funding in the New England Electorate will continue with \$16.7 million committed for projects across the ten local council areas in the Electorate, Deputy Prime Minister and Member for New England, Barnaby Joyce, said today.

With close to \$200 million committed for the New England Electorate for road projects alone, Mr Joyce said the upgrades and improvements would facilitate the movement of goods via the road network creating a stronger local economy for residents.

“The road funding in the recent Federal Budget is a record investment in infrastructure, particularly in the New England Electorate, where it will improve connectivity, productivity, and liveability for local people,” Mr Joyce said.

“I’m particularly pleased with the funding commitment for Roads to Recovery, which is a critical programme that local councils rely on to improve and maintain urban and rural road networks.

“This Government is serious about improving the lives of people in rural and regional areas and by providing funding for roads that allows improvements in the flow of goods and services we are ensuring this happens through the strengthening of local economies.”

More than \$16.7 million has also been committed for Roads to Recovery projects across the 10 councils in the New England Electorate. These include:

- Armidale Regional Council (\$2.16 million)
- Glen Innes Severn Council (\$1.2 million)
- Gwydir Shire Council (\$1.77 million)
- Inverell Shire Council (\$1.8 million)
- Liverpool Plains Shire Council (\$1.2 million)
- Tamworth Regional Council (\$3.6 million)
- Tenterfield Shire Council (\$1.4 million)

### Principal Office - Tamworth

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- Upper Hunter Shire Council (\$1.7 million)
- Uralla Shire Council (\$859,565)
- Walcha Council (\$814,440)

Some of the projects that are funded in the 2017-18 financial year in the New England under the programme include the following:

- \$285,000 for Glen Innes Severn Council for the rehabilitation, stabilisation or replacement of the existing road pavement, bitumen sealing and repainting pavement markings in Coronation Avenue between Lang Street and Ferguson Street in Glen Innes
- \$1.06 million for Upper Hunter Shire Council for alignment improvements, addition of passing lanes and pavement improvements for Bunnan Road Scone near the New England Highway intersection toward Merriwa
- \$800,000 for Uralla Shire Council towards the replacement of the timber Munsies Bridge on Gostwyck Road over Salisbury Waters, 10.5km east of Duke Street, Uralla, with a single lane concrete structure that will allow B-Double truck access
- \$342,763 for Walcha Council to replace the existing timber bridge on Hartford Road, Walcha – 4km from the Oxley Highway and Hartford Road intersection with a pre cast concrete bridge including upgrading the approaches

Other projects currently or soon underway include:

- \$106,738 for Gwydir Shire Council towards the resealing, stabilisation and patching of Baroma Downs Road 0.2km from North Star Road (total project cost \$135,000);
- \$1.22 million for Inverell Shire Council towards the reconstruction and resealing of Yetman Road 48km to 66 km north of Gwydir Highway, Inverell (total project cost \$2.5 million);
- \$300,000 for Liverpool Plains Shire Council towards the construction of 1.3km of pavement and seal, including drainage structures on Williewanina Road from Coonabarabran Road, Caroona from Coonabarabran Road, Caroona (total project cost \$375,000);
- \$584,608 for Tamworth Regional Council for the stabilisation of the existing pavement in White Street East Tamworth from Marius Street to Napier Street;
- \$275,000 for Tenterfield Shire Council to replace the existing timber bridge with multi cell box culverts on Beaury Creek Road, 9.8 km from Tooloom Road.

The Australian Government in the 2017-18 Budget committed \$350 million towards the Roads to Recovery programme, with a further \$50 million per annum from 2019-20 on-wards, bringing the annual commitment to \$400 million.

Roads to Recovery ensures every council in Australia receives funding to maintain the nation's local road infrastructure. The programme has been secured with \$4.4 billion over 2013-14 to 2020-21.

"The Budget also saw funding committed to a range of other local road projects such as the \$55 million New England Highway-Bolivia Hill Realignment, \$10 million towards the New England Highway-Tenterfield Heavy Vehicle Bypass, \$3.5 million for the upgrade of the Jewry Street Bridge in Tamworth and \$12 million towards the Mt Lindesay Road -Legume to Woodenbong," Mr Joyce said.

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Hon **Barnaby Joyce** MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR NEW ENGLAND

"This goes hand-in-hand with projects soon or already underway, such as the \$65 million delivered for the Scone Bypass, \$5.4 million for the MR358 road between Merriwa and Willow Tree and the \$1.56 million for the Appleby Lane upgrade in Tamworth."

For other projects being delivered in your region, visit: <http://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/>

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