

6 September 2011

\$1 BILLION FOR THE PACIFIC HIGHWAY UPGRADE IN 2011- 2012 STATE BUDGET

NSW Roads Minister Duncan Gay today announced a **\$1 billion** investment in the Pacific Highway as part of the 2011 - 2012 State Budget.

“The New South Wales Government is committed to working with the Federal Government to complete the upgrade of the Pacific Highway,” Mr Gay said.

As part of today’s budget, the NSW Government is committing to match overall additional Australian Government funding for the Pacific Highway of **\$468 million** to 2013-14, consistent with the term of the current National Partnership Agreement for the Building Australia Program.

The additional **\$468 million**:

- Increases the NSW commitment to the Pacific Highway upgrade by 94 per cent from 2009 to 2014;
- More than meets the additional **\$450 million** contribution the Federal Government requested from NSW during this time;
- Increases the joint-funded Pacific Highway upgrade program to \$4.84 billion;
- Brings the program to a clear 80 per cent federal – 20 per cent state funding contribution; and
- More than restores the **\$300 million** removed from the Pacific Highway program in the November 2008 mini-budget

“We recognise more funding will need to be committed by both governments in order to complete the Pacific Highway upgrade,” he said.

“The NSW Government supports the Prime Minister’s goal of completing the Pacific Highway duplication by 2016 and is keen to reach an agreement with the Federal Government that sets out the funding for, and timing of, completion.

“Today’s funding commitment confirms the RTA will be able to select a contractor to deliver the Frederickton to Eungai upgrade, north of Kempsey.

“The 27 kilometre Frederickton to Eungai upgrade will connect to the Kempsey bypass to the south and will bypass the site of the horrific Clybucca bus crash.

“All other projects needed to achieve a four-lane highway now have enough funding committed to be advanced to be ‘shovel-ready’ as quickly as possible,” Mr Gay said.

The budget provides construction funding for crucial upgrades including:

- **\$260 million** to continue construction of the federally funded dual carriageway bypass of Kempsey

- **\$190 million** to continue construction of the jointly funded dual carriageway upgrade between Coffs Harbour and Woolgoolga
- **\$135 million** to continue construction of the jointly funded Banora Point upgrade, near Tweed Heads
- **\$100 million** to continue construction of the jointly funded dual carriageway upgrade at Bulahdelah
- **\$90 million** to start construction of the jointly funded dual carriageway upgrade between Tintenbar and Ewingsdale, north of Ballina
- **\$32 million** to complete construction of the jointly funded dual carriageway bypass of Ballina
- **\$29 million** to start construction of the jointly funded dual carriageway upgrade at Devils Pulpit, north of Maclean
- **\$28 million** to continue construction of the upgrade between Herons Creek and Stills Road, south of Port Macquarie
- **\$13 million** to complete construction of the jointly funded dual carriageway upgrade at Glenugie, south of Grafton

In 2011-2012, funding has been committed to the planning, design and early work stages for other upgrades including:

- **\$32 million** for the jointly funded upgrade between the Oxley Highway and Kempsey
- **\$12 million** for the jointly funded upgrade between Frederickton and Eungai
- **\$50 million** for the jointly funded upgrade between Warrell Creek and Urunga
- **\$40 million** for the jointly funded upgrade between Woolgoolga and Ballina
- **\$3 million** to continue planning the Coffs Harbour bypass

Other projects to be completed on the Pacific Highway this financial year include:

- **\$11.8 million** for the resurfacing of the highway at various locations
- **\$2.8 million** for the repainting of Wardell Bridge over the Richmond River

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