

Tuesday, 17 November 2020

TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM DRIVING GREATER SYDNEY GROWTH

The NSW Government will commit a record \$14 billion in city-changing transport infrastructure that will increase public transport services, reduce road congestion, create jobs and help reduce the impact of COVID-19 on our State's economy.

Minister for Transport and Roads Andrew Constance said the 2020-21 NSW Budget would deliver on the Government's vision of a connected Greater Sydney.

"Throughout Greater Sydney, the NSW Government is delivering quality services, new and innovative connections and important transport projects that will transform the future of mobility," Mr Constance said.

"Game changing projects such as Sydney Metro, Parramatta Light Rail, and WestConnex are creating jobs and delivering economic benefits to local communities.

"By 2024, Sydney will have 31 metro railway stations and a 66 kilometres standalone metro railway system, revolutionising the way our city travels.

"The Sydney Metro West project alone will help double rail capacity between Greater Parramatta and the Sydney CBD, transforming Sydney for generations to come.

Almost \$28 billion will be invested over the next four years by the NSW Government into continuing the delivery of the Sydney Metro City and Southwest project and commencing the construction of the Sydney Metro West, and Sydney Metro – Western Sydney Airport projects.

This is part of a multi-billion-dollar long term investment into building a new Metro network to better connect Greater Sydney.

In our west, more than \$656 million in this year's Budget is being invested into the construction of Parramatta Light Rail Stage 1. This critical investment will support growth in this region by connecting new communities and places.

"Across the city, we are already seeing the benefits of congestion busting projects such as WestConnex, with the M8 and New M4 tunnels providing more efficient journeys," Mr Constance said

"In this year's Budget we are allocating \$1.3 billion to continue construction of the WestConnex Motorway including delivery of the final stage of the project, the M4-M5 link tunnels and Rozelle Interchange by 2023. This project alone is worth \$3.1 billion over four years.

“Throughout this pandemic, critical construction and maintenance work across NSW roads and transport networks has kept more than 130,000 people directly and indirectly employed by Transport for NSW.

“The investment in these projects will continue to deliver jobs and create the transport network of the future.”

Some of the other significant programs and projects receiving funding include:

- **\$1.6 billion** (\$1.5 billion recurrent and \$49 million capital) for bus services throughout NSW, including regional and metropolitan bus services, school services and funding of new and replacement buses;
- **An additional \$192 million** for the Transport Access Program to upgrade train stations and ferry wharves to make them more accessible including new lifts, ramps and footbridges. This adds to the existing \$885 million that was committed over four years in last year’s Budget;
- **Almost \$545 million** (\$4.2 billion over four years) to commence construction on the Sydney Gateway project and continue planning and preconstruction activities for the M6 Stage 1 Extension;
- **\$356 million** (\$5.7 billion over four years) for the planning and preconstruction for the Western Harbour Tunnel and Warringah Freeway Upgrade as part of the Western Harbour Tunnel program;
- **\$197 million** over the next four years for the Prospect Highway upgrade (State and Federal funded) including \$13.9 million in 2020-21;
- **\$149 million** over the next four years for the Memorial Avenue upgrade, including \$37 million in 2020-21;
- **\$120 million** over the next two years to match the Federal funding commitment for metropolitan pinch points;
- **More than \$1.1 billion** (\$4. billion over the forward estimates) to continue to deliver More Trains, More Services for increased rail services, and more frequent and additional services on the Illawarra, Airport and South Coast lines;
- **Fully funding** the delivery of commuter car parks at Edmondson Park, Leppington, Warwick Farm, West Ryde, Emu Plains, Schofields, Revesby, Riverwood, North Rocks, Engadine, Hornsby, Jannali, Wentworthville, Winston Hills, Casula, Tuggerah and Beverly Hills; and
- **Almost \$710 million** in walking and cycling infrastructure over the next four years, bringing the NSW Government’s total investment to almost \$1.1 billion – the largest in the State’s history.

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