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## **\$139M TO ACCELERATE INFRASTRUCTURE TO DELIVER THOUSANDS OF NEW HOMES**

The NSW Government is supporting growing communities with a \$139 million investment to accelerate the delivery of important local infrastructure in Sydney's west.

Minister for Planning and Public Spaces Rob Stokes said the 2021-22 NSW Budget provides funding for vital infrastructure to unlock housing supply in Western Sydney through round two of the Accelerated Infrastructure Fund (AIF).

"The AIF was one of many great successes in the Government's economic response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Amid the uncertainty of the past 12 months, we knew targeted, rapid infrastructure investment could support investment and bring forward construction," Mr Stokes said.

"Round two of AIF funding allows us to build on those efforts and deliver the vital infrastructure needed to unlock housing like roads, community infrastructure and public space.

"We are seeing enormous growth in demand for new greenfield housing, and one important way we can support new supply is by delivering upfront the supporting infrastructure these new communities need."

Mr Stokes said construction was underway on 14 projects from round one of the AIF to unlock new housing and jobs in Blacktown and The Hills local government areas.

"More than \$140 million from the first round of the AIF – including \$70 million from the NSW Government and contributions from Blacktown and The Hills councils – has put shovels in the ground to support the delivery of 40,000 new homes, 115 hectares of employment land, and 1,000 construction jobs," Mr Stokes said.

"With matched funding from councils, over a quarter of a billion dollars for Sydney's booming west will keep up the momentum for infrastructure projects to meet growing demand for new homes for Sydney families."

Further high growth councils in Western Sydney, including Liverpool, Camden, Wollondilly, Campbelltown and Hawkesbury, will be eligible for funding in round two of the program. Councils will be required to provide matching funding, and successful projects will need to commence within two years.

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