

Tuesday, 18 June 2019

BUDGETING FOR NEW ROADS, NEW HOSPITALS AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES IN WESTERN NSW

The Far West and the Central West and Orana are regions with a strong and diverse agricultural sector that enjoy a growing visitor economy and significant regional economy centred on agriculture and mining.

This Budget looks to support Western NSW with significant drought funding, new hospitals and significant infrastructure investment.

Key highlights from the 2019-20 Budget include:

- **\$200 million** invested in 2019-20 to flood proof the Newell Highway between Forbes and West Wyalong;
- **\$52.4 million** for continued delivery of overtaking lanes along the Newell Highway;
- **\$46.2 million** in 2019-20 (as part of a \$70.7 million project) for the Mudgee Hospital Redevelopment;
- **\$44.2 million** in 2019-20 (as part of a \$241.3 million project) for the Dubbo Hospital Redevelopment (Stages 1 to 4);
- **\$44 million** invested in 2019-20 for initial sealing of the Silver and Cobb Highways to provide all-weather and more durable highways in the region;
- **\$35 million** from 2020-21 to 2022-23 to build a major new state-of-the-art police education and training facility at Dubbo;
- **\$32 million** over three years to investigate the augmentation of Wyangala Dam;
- **\$25.9 million** to continue planning for the new Dubbo bridge on the Newell Highway over the Macquarie River and \$5.8 million for planning the Newell Highway upgrade at Parkes;
- **\$20 million** to continue construction of the Main Western Rail Line Capacity Enhancements;
- **\$19.2 million** to commence construction of the Great Western Highway upgrade between Kelso and Raglan;
- **\$17.3 million** in 2019-20 (as part of a \$35 million project) for the Western Cancer Centre in Dubbo (includes \$25 million Federal contribution);
- **\$8.4 million** to upgrade Wentworth Aerodrome and Arumpo Road;
- **\$7 million** allocated in 2019-20 to build a new police station in Bathurst;
- **\$7 million** over three years (from 2020-21) for a major upgrade to Bourke Police Station;
- **\$3.5 million** to refurbish the Bakka Cultural Centre in the Central Darling Shire;
- **\$2.6 million** for the Jubilee Oval Upgrade in Broken Hill City;

Quotes attributable to Member for Dubbo Dugald Saunders:

“The health and safety of our community is of the utmost importance. That’s why we’ve dedicated \$17.3 million for the Western Cancer Centre in Dubbo and \$44.2 million for the Dubbo Hospital Redevelopment”.

Quotes attributable to Member for Bathurst Paul Toole:

“We’re building stronger communities in Central West NSW, investing \$7 million to build a new police station in Bathurst. With a further \$1 million and \$1.2 million respectively towards upgrades and refurbishments of courthouses in Bathurst and Orange.”

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