

Media Release

The Hon **Thomas George** MP

Deputy Speaker | Member for Lismore

THE NATIONALS
for Regional NSW

22 July 2014

\$3 MILLION TO DELIVER VITAL UPGRADES TO MOUNT LINDESAY ROAD

Minister for Roads and Freight Duncan Gay and Member for Lismore Thomas George today announced the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government would invest \$2.38 million to upgrade sections of Mount Lindesay Road between Legume and Woodenbong.

"This is an important project for the communities and businesses of the Tenterfield and Kyogle shires, being a vital transport and road freight link for the entire region," Minister Gay said.

"This investment provides a wonderful opportunity to partner with Tenterfield Shire Council to deliver much needed upgrades to Mount Lindesay Road."

Tenterfield Shire Council will contribute \$600,000 to the project, bringing the total cost of the Mount Lindesay Road upgrades to almost \$3 million.

Minister Gay said this was yet another example of the NSW Government partnering with local councils to deliver vital transport and road freight infrastructure upgrades in country NSW.

"Since April 2011, the NSW Liberals and Nationals Government has provided more than \$1.55 billion to councils across the state – city and country – to build and repair local roads, bridges and culverts," Minister Gay said.

The 2014-15 NSW Budget provides \$267.6 million for local councils, including Block and Regional Roads REPAIR Program grants – a massive 42 per cent increase compared with \$188.2 million in 2009-10 (Labor's last full financial year in government).

"When natural disaster relief is added to the overall funding equation, NSW councils will benefit from a total of \$304.9 million from the State Government this financial year as part of the historic \$5.5 billion roads, maritime and freight 2014-15 Budget," Minister Gay said.

Mr George said the NSW Government and Tenterfield Shire Council took part in a safety review of Mount Lindesay Road in May this year which informed the specifications of the upcoming upgrades.

"Upgrades will include widening shoulders at narrow sections of the road, new line markings to help better separate lanes of traffic and the removal of vegetation to improve driver visibility of road conditions," Mr George said.

To start by the end of the year, works will focus on sections of the road near Mount Clunie Road, the entrance to Woodenbong and between White Swamp and Gumdale West.

Minister Gay said the NSW Government was delivering what rural and regional communities and businesses expect and deserve.

"The funding for Tenterfield Shire Council is in addition to the \$4 billion committed to rural and regional NSW as part of the overall 2014-15 roads, maritime and freight budget," Minister Gay said.

"Unlike Labor which threw its hands in the air in defeat, the NSW Liberals and Nationals Government is fiercely determined to rebuild road and freight infrastructure across the length and breadth of this great state," Minister Gay said.

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