



Anthony Albanese

Minister for Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Local Government

Sharon Grierson

Member for Newcastle

Joint Media Release

OVER \$3.3 MILLION FOR FOURTEEN ROAD BLACK SPOTS TO BE FIXED IN NEWCASTLE

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Anthony Albanese, and Federal Member for Newcastle Sharon Grierson, today announced that \$3,317,000 will be invested to fix fourteen dangerous black spots on local roads in Newcastle.

Six projects worth \$610,000 have been approved for Newcastle under the \$4.7 billion Nation Building Package. The funding, provided for the 08/09 year, will create road improvements in Lambton, Georgetown, Mayfield, Newcastle, New Lambton and Hamilton.

Ms Grierson and Mr Albanese also announced a further eight projects worth \$2,707,000 as part of the 2009-10 on-going Black Spot Program (see attachment for details).

“Road safety is a key priority and this program plays a very important role in driving down accidents in local communities. As the second largest city in NSW, it is essential we provide infrastructure improvements to Newcastle roads,” Mr Albanese said.

Sharon Grierson said she was pleased to see funding for such an important program flow into the Newcastle community. “An evaluation of the program has shown that it prevented at least 32 fatalities and more than 1,500 serious injuries in its first three years, nation-wide. This is a great investment in the safety of Newcastle residents.”

“The Rudd Government has honoured its election commitment to increase on-going black spot funding by 33 per cent, up to \$59.5 million per year from 2009/10. Nationally, the Black Spots Program for 2008/09 has been almost tripled from \$50 million to \$144.7 million,” Minister Albanese said.

“The Black Spot program will also stimulate the local economy and help support local jobs,” Ms Grierson said.

Details of the sites and the road improvements can be found in the attachment which follows.

17 March 2009

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Project Details:

Six projects worth \$610,000 have been approved under the \$4.7 billion Nation Building Package.

- \$270,000 to install a single lane roundabout at the intersection of Lambton and Rugby Roads in New Lambton,
- \$90,000 to install kerb extensions and raised thresholds with pedestrian crossings on Georgetown Road from Turner Street to Bowker Street in Georgetown,
- \$80,000 to add a pedestrian leg to the traffic signals at the intersection of Pacific Highway and Maud Street in Mayfield,
- \$75,000 to install pedestrian fencing on the eastern side of the King Street and Steel Street intersection in Newcastle,
- \$50,000 to install kerb extensions and a painted line to separate through and parking traffic on Bridges Road from Carnley Avenue to Queens Road in New Lambton, and
- \$45,000 to provide speed humps improved signage and delineation at the roundabout at the intersection of Beaumont Street and Dumaresq Street in Hamilton.

Ms Grierson and Mr Albanese also announced a further eight projects worth \$2,707,000 as part of the 2009-10 on-going Black Spot Program. These projects are:

- \$975,000 to install traffic signals and a U-turn facility at the southern intersection of Pacific Highway and Old Maitland Road at Hexham,
- \$720,000 to install traffic signals at the Parkway Avenue and Union Street intersection in Cooks Hill,
- \$520,000 to install a central median barrier on a 200 metre section of City Road north of Alice Street in Merewether,
- \$142,000 to install kerb extensions and raised thresholds with pedestrian crossings on King Street from Bolton Street to Perkins Street in Newcastle,
- \$100,000 to install a concrete median on Pacific Highway in Mayfield to make Baker and Barton Streets left in and left out only,
- \$100,000 to install pedestrian fencing on Pacific Highway in Newcastle from Wood Street to Denison Street,
- \$80,000 to change the number of circulating lanes in the roundabout at the intersection of Newcastle Road and Longworth Avenue in Wallsend, and
- \$70,000 to remove utility poles at the Bridges Road and Lambton Road intersection in New Lambton.