



Anthony Albanese

Minister for Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Local Government

Sharon Grierson

Member for Newcastle

Joint Media Release

27 April 2009

OVER \$1.6 MILLION FOR FIVE BLACK SPOTS TO BE FIXED IN NEWCASTLE

The Rudd Labor Government will invest \$1,665,000 to fix five additional dangerous black spots on Newcastle roads, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Anthony Albanese, and Member for Newcastle, Sharon Grierson, announced today.

"These projects will deliver safer roads to the people of Newcastle, as well as provide support for local jobs," Ms Grierson said.

"The Black Spot Program has demonstrated that it saves lives. In its first three years, the program prevented at least 32 fatalities and more than 1,500 serious injuries, nationwide," Ms Grierson said.

"It also returns around \$14 for every \$1 invested by reducing the number and cost of crashes."

Nationally, the funding for the Black Spots Program for 2008/09 has been almost tripled from \$50 million to \$144.7 million under the Government's Nation Building plan to support jobs.

"This increase in funding shows the high priority the Government places on road safety," Mr Albanese said.

"The emotional and financial impact of accidents can be enormous, which is why we are working towards making roads safer for motorists and their families."

Mr Albanese and Ms Grierson said that the projects were assessed and recommended by a panel of independent road safety experts including the NRMA, Federation of P&C Associations of NSW, Council on the Ageing, and Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia.

Anyone can suggest a location or a section of road for black spot funding using a nomination form that can be downloaded from www.nationbuildingprogram.gov.au.

Media Contacts

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Project Details

The five additional projects in Newcastle that have been approved as part of the Government's \$42 billion Nation Building and Jobs package are:

- \$675,000 to install traffic signals at the intersection of the Pacific Highway and Old Maitland Road North at Hexham;
- \$500,000 to install traffic signals on the Pacific Highway south of Masonite Road at Heatherbrae;
- \$350,000 to improve the road alignment at the intersection of City Road and Railway Street at Adamstown;
- \$100,000 to install electronic warning signs and change deflection on the approaches to the intersection of the Pacific Highway and Masonite Road at Heatherbrae; and
- \$40,000 to install advance warning signs, delineation and improve the clearzone at the intersection of Raymond Terrace Road and Woodberry Road at Millers Forest.