



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

## **BUDGET ESTIMATES 2023-2024**

### **Supplementary questions**

Portfolio Committee No. 6 – Transport and the Arts

**Regional Transport and Roads**  
**(Aitchison)**

Hearing: Thursday 29 February 2024

**Answers due by:** Wednesday 27 March 2024

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**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2023-2024**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS**

**Questions from Hon Chris Rath** *(on behalf of the Opposition)*

**REGIONAL TRANSPORT & ROADS**

**Barton Highway**

- (1) Noting that the Government failed to identify the cost of each stage of the Barton Highway individually in the NSW Budget and has not published these costs elsewhere including on the Transport website.
  - (a) Following the announcement of the completion of the Barton Highway Stage 1, what was the final cost of that project?
  - (b) The website currently suggests that the community will be advised of the concept design and the Review of Environmental Factors (REF) during 2024. Recognising that preferred designs for Kaveney's Road intersection and the Southern permanent tie-in have been released, and the Barton Highway corridor has committed funding up to \$200 million, the REF should be released imminently. What month should the community expect to be advised of this update to this important project?

**Forbes Iron Bridge Upgrade**

- (2) What are the current actions regarding this Project?
- (3) When will these actions conclude?
- (4) Of the \$2.255 million allocated in the 2023/24 NSW Budget, how much has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?
- (5) Can the community expect the Project will award a contract for major works by March 2027?

**Bruxner Highway**

- (6) Could the Minister please explain why the State Government did not proceed with the \$8 million planning works for the Bruxner Highway between Goonellabah and Wollongbar described by Transport for NSW as *'fatal and serious injury crash rate that is more than eight times higher than similar roads'*?

### **Hargraves Lane and Federation St Upgrade, Gilgandra**

- (7) What are the current actions regarding this project and when will they conclude?
- (8) Of the \$2.791 million allocated in the 2023/24 NSW Budget, how much has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?
- (9) Can the community expect the Project will award a contract for major works by March 2027?

### **Hume Highway Heavy Duty Pavement**

- (10) What are the current actions regarding this Project, noting it continues to conduct maintenance works but has not awarded a major works contract?
- (11) When are the slab replacement works expected to conclude during 2024?
- (12) Has Transport for NSW begun planning works to identify an end-state solution that restores the Marulan stretch of the Hume Highway corridor?
- (13) Of the \$9.955 million allocated in the 2023/24 NSW Budget, how much has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?

### **Mandalong Road Upgrade**

- (14) What are the current actions regarding this Project?
- (15) When will these actions conclude?
- (16) Of the \$4.8 million allocated in the 2023/24 NSW Budget, how much has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?
- (17) Recognising that the Project has \$58.8 million allocated over the four years to 2026/27, when can the community expect the Project will award a contract for major works?

### **Marshalls Creek Bridge**

- (18) What are the current actions regarding this Project?
- (19) When are these actions expected to conclude?
- (20) Of the \$5.569 million allocated in the 2023/24 NSW Budget, how much has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?
- (21) Recognising that the Project has \$23 million allocated over the four years to 2026/27, when can the community expect the Project will award a contract for major works?

## **Federal Funding**

(22) As the Federal Funding Review has now been completed for several months and this funding information is not available within the NSW 2023/24 Budget or updated during the NSW 2023/24 Half-Yearly Review, could the Minister please advise all projects with Australian Government funding (funded over \$1 million or more) within Regional NSW, with Regional NSW defined as anywhere a Council was eligible for the Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund?

- (a) Project Title
  - i. Committed Federal Funding
  - ii. Committed State Funding

## **Regional NSW Bridge Upgrades**

(23) Could the Minister please advise all bridges funded under this budget item?

## **Pacific Highway, Wyong Town Centre**

- (24) What are the current actions regarding this project and when will they conclude?
- (25) What is the financial spend to date on this project?
- (26) During which Financial Year are these works expected to proceed to procurement?

## **Central Coast Highway, Tumbi Road Intersection Upgrade**

- (27) What are the current actions regarding this project and when will they conclude?
- (28) Of the \$7.9 million allocated in the 2023/24 NSW Budget, how much has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?
- (29) Can the community expect the Project will award a contract for major works by March 2027?

## **Avoca Drive, Central Coast**

- (30) What are the results of the recent field investigations during January 2024?
- (31) Noting the TfNSW project website provides no relevant details, what are the next steps of works on this project?
- (32) Of the \$2 million allocated in the 2023/24 NSW Budget, how much has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?

(33) Can the community expect the Project will award a contract for major works by March 2027?

### **Newell Highway Flood Mitigation Works**

(34) Noting the update to the Transport for NSW website during December 2023 regarding work relating to the concept design and Review of Environmental Factors (REF), When can the community expect the Project will exhibit the REF to the public?

(35) Of the \$1.967 million allocated in the 2023/24 NSW Budget, how much has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?

### **Newell Highway Narrabri to Moree Heavy Duty Pavements**

(36) Noting the February 2024 Community Update for the Project, how can the NSW Government claim to have delivered these works on time and on budget when it has removed several kilometres of the proposed upgrade including the majority of Section 1 and another portion of Section 2?

(37) How much would it have cost to actually complete the original works, including all of Section 1 and Section 2?

(38) When does Transport for NSW intend to proceed with Section 4?

(39) If a further stage of works is under consideration, does Transport for NSW intend to proceed with the removed portions of Section 1 and Section 2?

### **Newell Highway, New Dubbo Bridge**

(40) Of the \$81.310 million allocated in the 2023/24 NSW Budget, how much has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?

### **Newell Highway, Parkes Bypass**

(41) Given the estimated total cost of the Parkes Bypass listed in the 2023/24 NSW Budget (\$192 million) is less than the cumulative sum of the estimated expenditure to the current Financial Year (\$122.434 million) and the 2023/2024 Budget Allocation (\$70 million) with two further years of construction remaining, what is the actual estimated total cost of the Parkes Bypass?

(42) Of the \$70 million allocated in the 2023/24 NSW Budget, how much has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?

### **Road Safety**

- (43) Please list all road safety initiatives which have been undertaken within Regional NSW, with Regional NSW defined as anywhere a Council was eligible for the Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund?
- (44) Do these initiatives include the ‘number of really important safety upgrades’ referred to by Mr Hayes on Page 65 of the transcript?

### **Rural and Regional Ticketing Solution**

- (45) Please provide an update regarding this project?
- (46) Of the \$29.219 million allocated in the 2023/24 NSW Budget, how much has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?

### **Regional Active Transport**

- (47) What active transport projects are currently being delivered within Regional NSW, with Regional NSW defined as anywhere a Council was eligible for the Regional Emergency Road Repair Fund?

### **Pacific Highway - Harrington Road Intersection Upgrade, Cooperook**

- (48) Following the conclusion of the Project’s Review of Environmental Factors on 10 March 2023, when can the community expect the Project will award a contract for major works?
- (49) Of the \$1 million allocated in the 2023/24 NSW Budget, how much has been spent to date on this Project in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?

### **Narooma Bridge**

- (50) As this Project does not have a webpage on the Transport for NSW website, please provide an update of the most recent actions regarding this Project?
- (51) Of the \$1 million allocated in the 2023/24 NSW Budget, how much has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?

### **Princes Highway Corridor (NSW) - Jervis Bay to Sussex Inlet Road Upgrade Stage 1**

- (52) Given Transport for NSW recently issued an EOI to progress planning for the Project, when can the community expect the Project will award a contract for major works?

- (53) Of the \$4.235 million allocated in the 2023/24 NSW Budget, how much has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?

### **Princes Highway Upgrade Program Corridor - Safety and Productivity Upgrades**

- (54) Please provide an update on what initiatives are being considered within the \$5 million allocated in the 2023/24 Budget?
- (55) Does this budget item include the ‘number of really important safety upgrades’ referred to by Mr Hayes on Page 65 of the transcript?
- (56) Is this separate to those initiatives being targeted under the Budget’s Road Safety budget item?

### **Princes Highway, Moruya Bypass**

- (57) What was the most recent action taken on this Project?
- (58) What, if any, money is currently allocated to planning works for this Project?
- (59) If any money has been allocated towards the Project, how much money has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?

### **New England Highway, Goonoo Goonoo Road**

- (60) Noting as at submission, the Transport for NSW website suggests Goonoo Goonoo Road will begin major works in December 2024.
- (a) When can the community expect the Project will award a contract for major works?
- (61) Has Transport for NSW completed detailed design on this project?
- (62) What was the most recent action taken on this project?
- (63) What, if any, money is currently allocated to planning works for this Project?
- (64) If any money has been allocated towards the Project, how much money has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?

### **New England Highway, Rocky Cut**

- (65) What was the most recent action taken on this Project?
- (66) What, if any, money is currently allocated to planning works for this Project?

(67) If any money has been allocated towards the Project, how much money has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?

### **Golden Highway Improvements**

(68) What improvements are being targeted under these this budget item?

(69) Of the \$1 million allocated in the 2023/24 NSW Budget, how much has been spent to date in the most recent internal Transport for NSW financial reporting?

### **Regional Roads Fund**

(70) As noted during the most recent hearing by Mr Fuller on page 89 that all projects funded under the Regional Road Fund are public.

(a) Please list all projects funded through the Regional Roads Fund?

(b) Please list CAPEX funding for all projects identified above?

(c) Please list OPEX funding for all projects identified above?

### **Big Tiri Bridge**

(71) What is the status of the Big Tiri Bridge?

(a) When is project set to commence?

(b) What is the expected conclusion date?

(c) How much has been spent on the bridge so far?

(d) When will it be open to traffic?

(e) Who is the contractor?

### **Waterfall Way**

(72) What is the status of Waterfall Way?

(a) What is the status of the Betterment Project - MR76 Waterfall Way Seg1400 - Improve Slope Stability Slope stabilisation using micropiles, meshing and shotcreting.