

Darren Chester MP

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport

Craig Laundy MP Member for Reid

Joint Media Statement

14 April 2016

\$335,000 to fix local black spots in Reid

Road safety in New South Wales has received a boost with a new round of funding announced under the Black Spot Programme.

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Darren Chester and Federal Member for Reid, Craig Laundy MP today announced funding of \$335,000 to fix five black spots on local roads.

Mr Chester said the projects were recommended by a panel of independent road safety experts and would be delivered during the course of 2016-17.

"The annual economic cost of road crashes is estimated at \$27 billion per year. Governments of all levels have made significant progress over several decades in reducing fatalities, yet there is still work to be done," Mr Chester said.

"This investment is helping to make our local roads safer for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians.

"The Australian Government has committed \$500 million to the Black Spot Programme from 2014-15 to 2018-19, including an additional \$200 million over two years from 2015-16 to improve road safety and infrastructure across the country."

Mr Laundy said the community of the Reid electorate will benefit from a safer local road network through the improvement of Black Spot locations recommended by the Consultative Panel.

"Residents will recognise the history and notoriety of each of these locations, including through their own near misses and seeing emergency services at the site first-hand," Mr Laundy said.

"The Black Spot Programme allows anyone to make a submission for a safety upgrade to a road or intersection in their local area.

"According to the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics, there were 1,242 road deaths in Australia in the 12 months to February 2016. This is far too many and we must continue the campaign to make our roads safer.

"We are committed to reducing crashes on our roads. Accidents take a huge toll on families, our communities and the economy and I am delighted to see these upgrades approved.

The approved projects in Electorate are:

- Intersection of Homebush Road and Burlington Road at Strathfield \$125,000 to install a single lane roundabout;
- Intersection of Arthur Street and Francis Street at Strathfield \$75,000 to install raised islands with additional stop or give-way signage;
- Intersection of Arthur Street and Hampstead Road at Strathfield \$50,000 to install raised islands with additional signage and upgrade intersection from give-way to stop;
- Intersection of Weeroona Road and East Street at Lidcombe \$45,000 to install a mid-block slow point, raised threshold and curve alignment markers;
- Intersection of Duck Street and Short Street at Auburn \$40,000 to install a raised median, mid-block slow point and raised threshold, upgrade intersection from give-way to stop and install pedestrian fencing on kerb.

For more information on the Australian Government's Black Spot Programme, or to nominate a black spot, visit <u>http://investment.infrastructure.gov.au/funding/blackspots/</u>.

Media Contacts

 For Mr Chester:
 02 6277 7776

 For Mr Laundy:
 Marc Snape, 0402 319 351