



CENTRAL NSW
COUNCILS

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

Date of Release: 11 August 2010

Approved by: Cr Neville Castle

“Transport Tsunami” alarms Cr Neville Castle into an urgent call to action – add your voice to Bells Line Express Campaign

Anyone travelling or sending family or visitors home across the Blue Mountains knows the traffic gamble to be made using both the Great Western Highway and the Bells Line of Road and the Bells Line Express Group, and Cr Neville Castle, Chair of Centroc, Mayor of Lithgow is asking residents in the Centroc region to send a message to those in Government that this needs to be addressed sooner rather than later.

A special website www.bleg.com.au has been established for people to add their voice to the campaign to improve road safety by and Cr Castle urges people to get active on the issue.

“In recent weeks not less than 17 cars have been involved in serious accidents on the Great Western Highway and it’s simply not good or safe enough,” said name.

News also of the transfer of Patrick’s Port Logistics, Dubbo to Sydney operations from rail onto the roads, has Castle concerned that the State Government will not act quickly enough on plans for a Bells Line Expressway.

“I think residents in the Central West should be very concerned that this decision by Patricks will see, as estimated by the NRMA, an additional 45,000 trucks onto NSW roads in and around Sydney.

“This is exactly the kind of issue that we as a Centroc group of Councils can all stand up together and make a noise about on behalf of the people right across the Central West who will feel the impact of the State’s lack of urgency on this issue.”

Cr Castle agrees with comments from NRMA director Graham Blight’s that a “transport tsunami” will hit roads across the Blue Mountains and that this alone should be the catalyst the State Government needs to make the Blue Mountains Expressway a real priority.

“The research has been done and the facts speak for themselves. According to NRMA statistics, the twin roads over the Blue Mountains (Bells Line of Road and Great Western Highway) are the most dangerous highways in the state, per kilometre of road.

“The Bells Line Expressway Group is stepping up its activities in the lead up to both the state and federal elections and we ask people to add their voice to the campaign.



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“The BLEG website has a series of emails you can send to relevant people in the NSW Government – and we’d urge people to send an email,” said Cr Castle.

Information and contacts for government area available at www.bleg.com.au

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For media enquiry contact: Jenny Bennett 0428 690 935 or Ian Armstrong 0427 424 524