



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **QUEANBEYAN MUST HAVE AN INTEGRATED ROAD SYSTEM**

Queanbeyan Business Council President, Ian McNamee, today expressed his frustration at Queanbeyan's continuing traffic problems.

Following QBC's General meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> August, Mr. McNamee said that, despite efforts by Queanbeyan City Council and other local groups, the City had been waiting for more than 13 years for a promised solution to the 'Monaro Street chaos'.

"Whilst the northern upgrade through Oaks Estate is only a temporary measure, it is already clear that trucks just won't use it", he says. "Not only is it a longer route than the Main Street, it is difficult for large trucks to manoeuvre."

It is time, he insists, for all levels of government to get serious and help the City to realise its potential through funding an integrated road system. The Central Business District, for instance, is being stifled by the current level of through traffic. "We only have to look at Goulburn to see the benefits of removing such heavy traffic loads".

Mr. McNamee stated that duplication of Lanyon Drive from Jerrabomberra roundabout to the Monaro Highway is an essential part of the equation, noting that ACT Government was already in receipt of Federal Government 'Roads to Recovery' funding for their portion.

"All road links between Queanbeyan and ACT need to be addressed as a matter of priority", Mr. McNamee states. "We welcome dialogue between all levels of government to ensure this happens".

"Queanbeyan will continue to grow – this is inevitable", Mr McNamee maintains. "What is also certain is that this growth will take place to the south of the City. Road systems and other infrastructure must be planned with these certainties in mind".

Noting that the proposed Edwin Land Parkway extension from Jerrabomberra to Ellerton Drive has been on UBD and other public maps for 20 years or more, Mr. McNamee says this route will "make up its own mind" when proposed developments receive planning approval. Queanbeyan City Council has applied for Federal 'Roads to Recovery' funding for the portion to Cooma Road.

Mr. McNamee stated that the Queanbeyan Business Council also supported a 'genuine Northern Bypass' to replace the current temporary solution. He welcomed comments by Member for Monaro Steve Whan MP at QBC's meeting. Mr. Whan acknowledged the importance of this project and indicated it could be completed in stages if funding were to become available.

"Mr. Whan has agreed to supply estimates for the cost of the stage from Canberra Avenue to Yass Road", Mr. McNamee added. "We have also asked Mr. Whan to talk to State Rail Authority concerning the possible removal of the centre support for the Yass Road railway bridge".

"We believe all these issues need to be addressed now to ensure Queanbeyan's future growth is sustainable", Mr. McNamee concluded.

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