



**CENTROC**

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

Date of Release: 18 May 2016

Approved by: Cr Bill West, Chair of Centroc and Mayor of Cowra Shire Council

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**CENTROC AND MINISTER GAY COLLABORATE TO UNLOCK REGION'S POTENTIAL  
ALIGNING TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES**

Central NSW Councils (Centroc) welcomed the opportunity to meet with Duncan Gay, Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight at their annual Board Meeting at Parliament House in Sydney last week.

"We are appreciative of the support of Minister Gay working in collaboration with the Central NSW Councils to unlock the region's potential through alignment of priorities for road and rail with those of other levels of government," said Councillor Bill West, Chair of Centroc.

"As the Minister responsible for freight, Duncan Gay has a very keen understanding of the importance of road and rail linkages for transporting freight to port for continued investment and growth in our region."

"Centroc members thank the NSW Government for their investment in critical upgrades to improve freight access over the Blue Mountains, including the delivery of seven extra overtaking lanes on the Bells Line of Road which will be completed by mid-2017."

"We were pleased to hear the corridor for the Bells Line of Road-Castlereagh Connection will be secured by the end of the year, this will allow for future construction of a motorway connection between Bells Line of Road at Kurrajong and the M7 Motorway."

"Centroc members also welcome the State Government's investment of \$22 million in the region in the first round of the Fixing Country Roads Program and for their investment in revitalising the rail network through the \$400 million Fixing County Rail Program."

"We look forward to continuing to work with the State Government to improve road and rail to and from port and domestic markets and managing freight and passenger train constraints."

"We were also particularly pleased to see the Federal budget announcement of \$594 million for the Inland Rail project and thank the State Government for its investment in work on Inland Rail through RDA Central West."

"Projects such as the Blayney to Demondrille and Maldon-Dombarton rail lines are significant links in a strategic regional rail strategy that will ensure the State gets optimal value from this essential piece of national infrastructure."

"Unlocking road and rail transport in the Central NSW region has the potential to deliver significant growth and we look forward to working with the Minister to realise this through the strategic alignment of transport priorities across the three levels of government."

**ENDS**

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