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MEDIA RELEASE

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NRMA and Centroc work for better roads for Central NSW

The Chair of Centroc Cr Bill West and NRMA Board Member for Regional NSW, Ms Fiona Simson met in Dubbo today to discuss various transport priorities in Central NSW.

As part of our Pilot Joint Organisation of Councils and working in collaboration with key stakeholders, Centroc met with NRMA a key agency for the road network within Centroc communities to discuss ways we can benefit from each other's knowledge and advocacy.

"There is certainly opportunity for better roads through the progression of regional effort. This needs careful consideration, design and commitment by a number of stakeholders," said Cr Bill West Chair of Centroc.

A growing infrastructure and maintenance backlog is putting greater pressure on the NSW local and regional road network, with road safety being a primary concern. The economic cost will continue to increase if a suitable plan is not implemented to adequately fund roads both in this region and linking us to Sydney and ports.

Centroc has worked with Regional Development Australian Central West (RDACW) to form an Infrastructure Priority Plan that ranks infrastructure in the Centroc area based on a methodology informed by the state and federal funding framework.

"I commend Centroc for their approach to work together as a region. The Infrastructure Priority Plan for Freight and Logistics that has been developed provides good information on the region's transport needs. Now we need to get alignment with these priorities and the flow of resources," said Ms Simson, NRMA Board member for Regional NSW.

The Bells line of Road was also discussed, and both parties agreed that it was pleasing that the Government has committed money to upgrading parts of the corridor for better safety.

"We still need to get High Mass Vehicles over the mountains into Sydney and the existing Bells Line and Great Western Highway connections are just too steep," said Cr Bill West Chair of Centroc.

"Across the state of NSW we are seeing a need for better prioritisation and planning. While the work that Joint Organisations such as Centroc are doing is excellent there needs to be consistency across the state." said Ms Simson

"We look forward to showcasing the growing work in best practice in infrastructure being carried out in Central NSW to NRMA Board members when they visit our region in the future" said Cr West.

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