MEDIA RELEASE

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URBAN REVITALISATION FOR PARRAMATTA ROAD

The NSW Government today announced a $200 million urban revitalisation package to transform Parramatta Road into a more attractive place to live and work, as part of the WestConnex project.

The plan places improvements to urban amenity at the centre of the project, including planting new trees, removal of unsightly power poles and wires, greater use of underground cabling and footpath widening.

NSW Premier and Minister for Western Sydney Barry O’Farrell said WestConnex would bring enormous benefits to Sydney by triggering urban revitalisation along the 20km Parramatta Road corridor between Broadway and Parramatta.

“This is a once in a generation opportunity to finally fix one of Sydney's most hated roads,” Mr O’Farrell said.

“In consultation with local communities, the NSW Government will spend $200 million on new footpaths, green space, bus lanes, trees and the removal of power poles.

“WestConnex will do for Parramatta Road what the Eastern Distributor did for Surry Hills and parts of Redfern by taking heavy traffic off inner-city streets and allowing those suburbs to come alive with new investment, housing, cafes, restaurants and businesses.”

Roads Minister Duncan Gay said WestConnex will remove thousands of cars and up to 3,000 trucks a day from Parramatta Road.

“The community will be provided with an opportunity to determine how Parramatta Road should be used in the future,” Mr Gay said.

“Options for consideration include changes to parking, increased movement of traffic across Parramatta Road from the north and south, new parking or the enhancement of bus lanes.

“If 10 kilometres of bus lanes are created, bus travel times between Burwood and the CBD can be cut almost in half.

“Parramatta Road is currently so congested it has become a barrier for pedestrians, buses and cars.
“By removing through traffic from Parramatta Road, WestConnex will reconnect communities north and south as well as east and west, and better link them with the harbour and parklands.

“Improving north-south travel times will give residents better access to public transport, including trains on the Western Line, light rail and bus services in the inner-west.

“This will make the Parramatta Road corridor an even more attractive place to live, work and socialise.”

Key facts

- $200 million will be spent removing power poles, laying new footpaths and bus lanes and planting new trees on Parramatta Road, making it a more attractive place to live, work and socialise
- Sections of Parramatta Road will be rezoned to attract new investment in apartments and businesses
- Local streets will be returned to local communities
- 25,000 new homes and 25,000 new jobs will be created along Parramatta Road over the next 20 years.
- Local communities and local councils will be given a real say in how to achieve the improvements.

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