

NSW GOVERNMENT WEEKLY UPDATE – 28 November 2014

REBUILDING NSW TO TURBOCHARGE GROWTH AND BOOST JOBS

- NSW Premier Mike Baird has detailed a \$20 billion plan to turbocharge infrastructure in NSW, including a second Sydney Harbour rail crossing and a third Sydney Harbour road crossing.
- Rebuilding NSW will bust congestion, boost productivity, create jobs and set this great State up for generations. This is a visionary plan for Sydney and the regions, and importantly it is funded.
- As part of the package, the NSW Government will allocate \$6 billion for regional NSW to ensure these communities have the roads, schools, health services and water infrastructure they need.
- Economic modelling by Deloitte Access Economics suggests the accelerated program would boost the economy by almost \$300 billion and create more than 100,000 jobs.

ELECTRICITY PRICES SET TO DROP FURTHER

- Minister for Resources and Energy Anthony Roberts has welcomed a Draft Determination for the NSW electricity businesses from the Australian Energy Regulator that may reduce household electricity bills even further.
- Under Labor, power prices rose by 60 per cent over 5 years, but those days are now behind us.
- Under the AER Draft Determination, typical residential customers could receive average annual discounts on their electricity bills of between \$159 and \$346.
- The Draft Determination also disproves Labor's false claims that the proposed lease of the NSW network businesses will increase power prices.

BARANGAROO POINT NAMED, NOW OVER TO THE PUBLIC

- The first place within the Barangaroo precinct has been given its official name, with the headland park to be known as Barangaroo Point.
- Barangaroo Point returns a spectacular part of Sydney Harbour back to the people of Sydney and when it opens next year will quickly become one of the city's most popular destinations.

- The next places to be named at Barangaroo will be selected by the public - a pontoon in the northern cove, a major street, the main pedestrian thoroughfare from Wynyard Walk and a public gathering place.
- The public can vote for their selections at www.barangaroo.com/naming

FIRE & RESCUE NSW STRONGER THAN EVER

- An additional 40 firefighters will strengthen Fire & Rescue NSW and will be stationed at key locations across the Sydney metropolitan region.
- Fire & Rescue NSW will operate with a record budget of \$665 million – the largest in the organisation’s 130 year history.
- In addition to the extra firefighters, five new state of the art tankers, worth \$1.77 million, will be rolled out and based at Miranda, Lane Cove, Kellyville, Narellan and Cranebrook.
- The extra firefighters will help ensure full-time fire stations in Sydney are online and available to respond to fires and other emergencies both around the city and beyond.

PARRAMATTA ROAD URBAN RENEWAL STRATEGY

- The community is being asked to provide comment and feedback on proposed plans to reinvent one of Sydney’s most infamously congested road corridors – Parramatta Road.
- The NSW Government is committed to considered, sensible revitalisation of this corridor, which has been an eyesore in our global city for too long.
- The 20-year urban transformation of Parramatta Road will help create up to 50,000 jobs and 50,000 new homes.
- We are focused on improving the supply of homes near jobs and near public transport and other infrastructure – these plans deliver on that commitment.

OPAL TO GO LIVE ON LIGHT RAIL MONTHS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

- Customers will be able to use their Opal card to tap onto Sydney Light Rail services from Monday 1 December – months ahead of the planned start date of early 2015.
- From next week, light rail customers in Sydney will be able to tap on and tap off services from 23 stops between Dulwich Hill and Central and interchange seamlessly with trains, ferries and buses.
- This is great news for customers who have been flocking to the new Inner West Light Rail Extension since we opened it earlier this year. The light rail now links the community with popular locations in Sydney’s centre and the Inner West, including Chinatown, Darling Harbour, the Sydney Fish Market and Leichhardt.
- Opal electronic ticketing is transforming public transport in NSW and now thousands more customers will be able to take advantage of modern and convenient travel when Opal rolls out to light rail.

REAL-TIME FERRY AND LIGHT RAIL APPS AVAILABLE FOR CUSTOMERS

- Real-time apps are now available for customers catching light rail and Sydney Ferries services, taking customer service to a whole new level.
- The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government introduced real-time transport apps for trains and buses in 2012 and customers are now using their smart phone to make more than 55 million requests for real-time information every month.
- Real-time information for public transport has changed the way customers travel – they are now able to plan ahead, not just by looking at the timetable but by actually seeing where their bus or train is located.
- Ferry and light rail information will appear on all six transport apps within the next seven days. NextThere, TripView, TransitTimes+, TripGo, Triptastic and Arrivo Sydney apps are available across iPhone and Android platforms.

DEMERIT POINTS

- A demerit point penalty is being introduced on top of the existing fine for able bodied people found guilty of abusing disabled car parking spaces.
- From Monday, anyone caught parking in a disabled car park without holding a valid mobility parking sticker will not only get a \$519.00 fine – they'll also receive a demerit point penalty.
- The demerit point will apply wherever disabled parking offences are currently enforced.
- Roads Minister Duncan Gay said he won't stand for the irresponsible and rude actions of people who deny disabled people the right to park in these critical car parks.

EGG STAMPING INTRODUCED

- Eggs produced in NSW must now be stamped with a unique identifying mark to allow them to be traced back to the farm of origin.
- The protection is part of a new national standard for eggs that will help reduce the impact of a food poisoning outbreak through improved traceability. Egg stamping will mean that the source of any outbreak will be more easily traced and contained.
- Minister for Primary Industries Katrina Hodgkinson has commended the egg industry, which has widely come on board well before this week's deadline.
- In order to reduce the impact upon smaller operators, the NSW Government has provided free stamps to small businesses producing less than 1,000 eggs a day.

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