



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Media Release

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Australian Road Assessment Report valuable tool for fixing problem sections of New England Hwy

Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor MP, has welcomed the inaugural Australian Roads Assessment program (AUSRAP) Report.

Mr Windsor met with Mr Ross Turnbull, NRMA Motoring and Services, President, yesterday and congratulated the NRMA on its initiative and the proactive way that the NRMA are addressing the issue of road funding.

“The Australian Roads Assessment Program (AUSRAP) report is an objective analysis of crash history, fatalities on the National Highway system which establishes a ratio of safety or danger based on traffic movements so that direct comparisons can be made,” Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor said the report was based on information obtained by the NRMA from the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) covering the years 1998-2002.

“The AUSRAP Report identifies the section of the New England Highway between Glen Innes and the Queensland border with 8 fatalities in 5 years as a medium/high risk in terms of danger.

This analysis would identify with the Bolivia Hill south of Tenterfield where planning is currently underway and the recently announced contract for works of \$7.1m at the Four Mile Creek Bridge.

The report will be a valuable non political analysis to suggest that the Bolivia Hill should be the highest priority on the New England Highway within the New England electorate.

The current \$36m works being carried out at Devil’s Pinch and Duval Creek between Armidale and Guyra should help in improving the ratio in future years,” Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor also asked Mr Turnbull for a breakdown of the analysis within that section of the New England Highway within the New England electorate and encouraged the NRMA to maintain a rolling review based on the same parameters.

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