

# MEDIA ALERT



## **BLEG URGES BI-PARTISAN SUPPORT OF ROAD PROJECT**

**Chairperson**  
Hon. Ian Armstrong OBE MP  
**Secretary**  
Bob Roach

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Chairman of the Bells Line Expressway Group (BLEG) Ian Armstrong MP has explained the current political support both in NSW and federally for the urgently needed extension of the M2 from Sydney leading into a new Bells Line Expressway from Windsor to Lithgow.

Mr Armstrong said there needs to be a commitment from all levels, and both sides of government to see the project to fruition.

“Put simply, during the recent NSW state election we witnessed opposition parties giving the project their full support while the government virtually ignored the proposal,” Mr Armstrong said.

“With a federal election coming up before the end of the year the Federal Government has indicated its full support by announcing \$10 million to begin the scoping studies and as the Chairman of BLEG I’m finding it difficult to get a clear response from the Federal Opposition.”

Mr Armstrong said he had experienced strong and welcome backing from some local candidates including the Kerry Bartlett who was the Liberal candidate for the newly drawn seat of Macquarie which encompasses parts of the Blue Mountains, Lithgow and Bathurst.

“Candidates like Mr Bartlett are working extremely hard to maximise political support for this project but my group is currently struggling to get access to members of the opposition to endeavour to get a similar commitment,” Mr Armstrong said.

“The general consensus is that this road will eventually be built, the only question remaining is when it will start and when it will finish.”

Mr Armstrong said the current major access route over the Blue Mountains is the most dangerous road in NSW per vehicle per kilometre and the longer the delay on construction the more deaths and serious accidents will occur.

“The need is urgent, the right time to commence construction is now,” Mr Armstrong said.

“This project is in the interest of all Sydney-siders and the people of inland NSW, some have compared this project in degree of national importance as having the same positive and negative effects as the Snowy Hydro Scheme.”

Ends

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