



MEDIA RELEASE

FIXING COUNTRY BRIDGES FUNDING TO SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE ROAD SAFETY

The Minister for Roads, the Hon. Paul Toole, MP, has announced that Bourke Shire Council will receive \$1.515m under the Fixing Country Bridges Program to widen two (2) bridges on Main Road 68 South (Bourke to Wilcannia) to two (2) lanes from the current one (1) lane width that currently exists.

The two (2) bridges are located at Jandra Creek No 2, 20km from Kidman Way, and the bridge over Compadore Creek, 148.3km from Kidman Way on Main Road 68 South.

The funding will be supplemented by \$400,000 from other sources, making the budget for the bridge widening projects, a total of \$1.915m.

Mayor of Bourke Shire Council, Councillor Barry Hollman, said that the widening of the bridges will significantly increase the safety of the roadway in these localities and welcomed the announcement.

Councillor Hollman said that Bourke Shire Council previously had a program to upgrade all of its timber bridges to concrete and that whilst this program was completed a few years ago, the opportunity was now being taken to improve the standard and safety of bridges that are on Council's main arterial roads.

He expressed his appreciation to the State Government for the funding and their ongoing assistance both to Bourke Shire Council and rural Councils and communities more generally.

Councillor Hollman said that Council was fortunate to have obtained significant grants funding over the past few years and thanked the State Government for their assistance and support and also acknowledged the efforts of staff in compiling excellent funding submissions.

End

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Further information contact Mayor Barry Hollman 0409037903 or General Manager Ross Earl 0409362307.