



Melinda Pavey
Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight

MEDIA RELEASE

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A CLEAR DIRECTION FOR NSW FREIGHT AND PORTS INVESTMENT

The NSW Government is seeking industry feedback on a draft plan that identifies key freight priorities to deliver a more efficient freight system across NSW.

The NSW Draft Freight and Ports Plan contains actions and future directions by Government and industry to move goods in an efficient, safe and environmentally sustainable manner.

Roads, Maritime and Freight Minister Melinda Pavey said the freight industry plays a vital role in the movement of \$200 billion a year in goods across the state.

“The economic boom in NSW and the increasing demand for our exports internationally means that freight volumes are forecast to double in the Greater Sydney area in the next 40 years and grow by a quarter in regional NSW,” Mrs Pavey said.

“Our major commercial ports at Port Botany, Port Kembla and Newcastle are managing increasing volumes of imported and exported goods, requiring faster, more efficient road and rail access with our Sydney and regional NSW markets.”

The percentage of container freight moved by rail has increased from 14 per cent to 21 percent.

“We need a strong plan to ensure that our farmers, miners and industries can respond to all opportunities, delivering successful outcomes for the NSW economy and local communities.”

The draft Plan has been released to encourage feedback from industry, local government and members of the community to develop the Final Plan.

The Plan when finalised will guide future developments for the freight sector, acknowledging the opportunities and challenges as a result of issues such as technology advancements and increased urbanisation.

“Technological changes has the opportunity to provide huge opportunities for improving the movement of freight. We want to play a strong role in supporting industry as it continues to innovate and take advantage of these opportunities,” Mrs Pavey said.

The Final Plan will outline the NSW Government's priorities and actions, and will include firm targets and key performance measures developed in consultation with the community.

The Plan is available at future.transport.nsw.gov.au

Feedback and formal submissions are encouraged until late March 2018.

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