



Greg Aplin MP
Member for Albury

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW GOVERNMENT CALLS ON INDUSTRY TO HELP AUTOMATED VEHICLES TRANSFORM REGIONAL NSW

Regional communities across the state will have the chance to be among the first in NSW to trial automated vehicles as the NSW Government calls for expressions of interest.

Member for Albury, Greg Aplin said the NSW Government is currently trialling the state's first fully automated vehicle at Newington Armory, through the collaboration between the Smart Innovation Centre and Industry partners.

"We want to test this technology outside of the Greater Sydney area so that our regional communities can be part of our future planning when it comes to driverless vehicles," Mr Aplin said.

"Country people account for only one third of the state's population but tragically two thirds of all fatalities in NSW occur in country areas.

Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight Melinda Pavey said currently 94 per cent of road accidents result from human error. Automated vehicles remove the human element of driving, which will help bring the road toll down Towards Zero.

"It's important to make sure regional communities get the opportunity to experience and realise the benefits automated vehicles will bring beyond the city limits," she said.

Minister for Transport and Infrastructure Andrew Constance said there is still some way to go before automated vehicles become commonplace on NSW roads, but the NSW Government is exploring smarter systems and technology-driven solutions.

"We want to hear from the leaders in technology, industry innovators, local councils, universities and community transport operators to explore this exciting area of technology."

For more information on getting involved in the trial visit the Smart Innovation Centre webpage <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/projects/programs/smart-innovation-centre> or contact smartinnovationcentre@transport.nsw.gov.au.

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