



**Greg Aplin MP**  
Member for Albury

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **NEW RAILWAY CROSSING TO IMPROVE TRUCK SAFETY AND BRING TRAFFIC HARMONY TO HENTY**

Heavy vehicles hauling grain will no longer have to travel through the township of Henty as a result of the joint funding by the Federal and NSW Government that will also improve railway crossing safety on the Olympic Highway.

Member for Albury, Greg Aplin MP announced \$3.1 million from the NSW Government Regional Communities Development Fund for a new railway crossing linking the Olympic Highway to the GrainCorp facility in Henty West.

This complements the Federal Government commitment of \$3.6 million announced by Member for Farrer, the Hon Sussan Ley, under the Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program last year and Greater Hume Council's commitment to the \$7.2m project.

Mr Aplin said the new crossing at Grubben Road, 800 metres north of the current unprotected crossing, would have signals and boom gates while a 1.2km Olympic Highway realignment would let B-triples safely pass over railway tracks.

"Locals know that large numbers of grain trucks drive through Henty because they are too long to safely use the current Williams Crossing, regardless of whether they are travelling north or south along the Olympic Highway," Mr Aplin said.

"The new alignment will allow B-triples to safely wait on the Olympic Highway if a train is passing through the crossing and then travel directly to GrainCorp, meaning they will no longer have to detour through the town.

"Taking trucks off local streets will improve pedestrian safety in Henty while the new custom designed crossing will reduce the risk of intrusions, like the 2013 near miss when a truck and passenger train almost collided at the current crossing."

Member for Farrer, the Hon Sussan Ley said "The \$3.6m in Federal Government funding secured for this project last year will also allow suitable stacking distance for heavy vehicles between the railway line and the Olympic Highway, to provide a more efficient and safer access point to the town's local grain storage facility

Mr Barilaro said while improving public safety is always paramount, the new railway crossing would also provide economic benefits to the region.

"The Olympic Highway realignment will reduce truck travel times on approach to the GrainCorp facility, complementing the company's plans to upgrade its onsite infrastructure to improve truck unloading and train loading times," Mr Barilaro said.

"This means higher productivity and greater grain movements at a facility on the Inland Rail route, which in turn will lead to increased revenue and job opportunities.

"We are investing record amounts of money into infrastructure and, as is the case here in Henty, businesses are also confident to invest because they see communities thriving, which means their business can thrive too."

Funding for the new Henty railway crossing project has been secured from the NSW Government's Regional Communities Development Fund, the Commonwealth Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program and the Greater Hume Shire Council.

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