



Blackheath\_highway  
ACTION GROUP

# **BLACKHEATH\_highway ACTION GROUP**

A joint initiative of the Blackheath Chamber of Commerce & Community Inc. and the Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre

## **Media Release**

### **BLACKHEATH HIGHWAY ACTION GROUP WELCOMES INDEPENDENT REPORT INTO GREAT WESTERN HIGHWAY UPGRADES WEST OF KATOOMBA**

The Blackheath Highway Action Group ('BAG') welcomed the release of the Review of Great Western Highway Upgrades West of Katoomba independent report.

"We have lobbied very hard for this Review," said Blackheath Highway Action Group spokesperson Michael Paag.

"The Review supports our claims that spending nearly \$2 billion on an 18.4km M4 style 4 lane b-double highway upgrade between Mt Victoria and Lithgow is not needed and won't deliver value for taxpayers' money," said Mr Paag.

"We support the report's recommendation that funding for Stage 1 of the proposed Mt Victoria to Lithgow upgrade (including the proposed River Lett Hill B-double bypass) should instead be spent directly improving road safety for the local community.

"The report also supports our calls for an integrated rail/road plan for the transport of freight between the Central West and the coast.

"Funneling thousands of trucks onto the highway through the Blue Mountains won't solve the freight transport needs of the Central West.

"We need an integrated transport plan that incorporates rail for the transport of long haul freight between the Central West and the coast.

“We call on the Federal and State Governments to fully implement all of the recommendations of the Review report without delay,” concluded Mr Paag.

ENDS FRIDAY 21 JULY 2012

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**Blackheath Highway Action Group**

Blackheath Highway Action Group ('BAG') is a joint initiative with the Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre. BAG has approximately 250 members and includes representatives from the Blackheath Public School Council, Friends of Blackheath Pool, Blackheath Streetscape Group, and the Blackheath Mt Victoria RSL Sub-branch. BAG was set up to address highway and transport issues that affect Blackheath.

**BAG PR 3/2012**