

# MEDIA RELEASE

## New Northern Beaches Hospital Highlights Transport Fix Needed Now

10 May 2013

Construction of the new Northern Beaches Hospital is due to start in 2015 and the mayors of Manly, Mosman, Pittwater and Warringah have reinforced their call for transport issues to be addressed ready for its 2018 opening.

SHOROC President and Warringah Mayor Michael Regan, says we are another step closer to having a much needed new hospital and it is now time to fix the roads and transport issues in and around the area.

“It is widely acknowledged transport is the biggest issue across the SHOROC region and councils have been advocating for many years as part of the [Shaping Our Future](#) strategy to upgrade our roads and deliver an effective public transport system. The campaign calls on priority investment from state and federal governments to enhance the major public transport and road infrastructure for better access to, from and within the SHOROC region.

“While investigations are underway, the key questions are when and how will the intersections of Warringah Road with Wakehurst Parkway and Forest Way be upgraded, and the flooding issues on Wakehurst Parkway addressed?

“Concrete plans are needed for a fast and efficient public transport system to serve the hospital and link it to Dee Why, Chatswood and beyond,” said Mayor Regan.

SHOROC and its partner councils have developed an integrated plan for fixing the region’s transport woes, including priorities for the Pittwater/Spit/Military Rd, Warringah Rd and Mona Vale Rd corridors.

For Warringah Road and the Northern Beaches Hospital, SHOROC is calling for:

- Grade separation at the intersections of Warringah Road with Wakehurst Parkway and Forest Way and upgrades to Wakehurst Parkway to provide flood-free access.
- Fast public transport links from Dee Why to Chatswood, with an initial focus on the provision of frequent and direct express bus services and bus priority measures, and then upgrade to a segregated Bus Rapid Transit system or other greater capacity transport in future years.
- Construction of targeted park and rides to maximise patronage of public transport.

“The new hospital will be a boon to our area for both health and employment and we want to ensure we maximise these benefits by having an equally effective transport system. We urge the government to commit to these vital road and public transport upgrades before the end of 2013.

“SHOROC and the councils will continue to work with the NSW Government on planning the hospital and transport upgrades and we look forward to seeing some real infrastructure improvements for our region,” said Mayor Regan.

### Ends

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Shore Regional Organisation of Councils – a partnership of Manly, Mosman, Pittwater & Warringah Councils.