

MEDIA RELEASE
Amanda Rishworth MP
Federal Member for Kingston

**RUDD GOVERNMENT TO DELIVER \$1.75 BILLION IN NEW MONEY FOR LOCAL
ROADS IN Kingston**

Anthony Albanese, Minister for Transport, and Amanda Rishworth MP today announced that the Rudd Labor Government is set to deliver a record \$1.75 billion in new money to improve local roads in Kingston Electorate by securing the *Roads to Recovery* program for another five years to 2014.

Mr Albanese said, "This funding will be an increase of \$50 million a year (or \$250 million over five years) compared with the previous annual allocation under the *Roads to Recovery* program."

Ms Rishworth said, "This funding will help fund urgent upgrades and repairs to maintain local roads and make them safer for the thousands of working Australians travelling every day.

"In 2008-09, the Government will deliver \$10,607,816 to the Onkaparinga Council significant funding for urgent safety upgrades and repairs to local councils in the Kingston Electorate

These funds to councils in 2008-09 this year include:

- **Marion Council - \$2,300,245**
- **Onkaparinga Council - \$8,151,996**

The Onkaparinga Councils will also receive half a million in 2008-09 through supplementary funding for local roads.

Mr Albanese said that at present, the *Roads to Recovery* program was due to run out on 30 June 2009.

"That's why today, I introduced legislation into the Parliament which not only secures the program for five years, but increases funding by \$250 million to a record \$1.75 billion to councils.

"Around Australia, councils are responsible for maintaining more than 657,000 kilometres of local roads, which are used by millions of working Australians every day."

Ms Rishworth MP said, "And local roads are critical for efficient and safe freight movements because often the last kilometre from highway to port is a local-government controlled road.

"The Rudd Labor Government is working in partnership with local councils to deliver safer roads."

Each council's individual allocation of this new funding will be determined later in the year by state and territory grants commissions.

Further information on Roads to Recovery can be found at <http://www.auslink.gov.au/funding/r2r/index.aspx>