



DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES REPORT

8th August 2006

DSS1 2006 NSW LOCAL ROADS CONGRESS
FILE: 19 NJT {Folio No. * }

SUMMARY:

Reporting on the 2006 NSW Local Roads Congress.



An invitation has been extended to Councillors and senior staff to attend the 2006 NSW Local Roads Congress to be held in Sydney on 15th to 17th October 2006. A copy of the program is attached at [Appendix A](#).

The Congress has been organised to discuss Roads and Transport Policy on a state wide basis and to set the framework for developing industry strategies into the future.

The inaugural NSW Local Roads Congress was held in Sydney on 5th and 6th December 2005. Council's delegates at the Congress were Councillor Bob McWilliam and Technical Advisor-Roads, Neil Thomson.

The inaugural 2005 NSW Local Roads Congress had representation from the Local Government Association of NSW, the Shires Association of NSW and the Institute of Public Works Engineering (IPWEA NSW Division), NRMA, RTA, and included delegates from a wide section of councils throughout mainly regional NSW. This wide cross-section of participants provided a valuable debate on roads and transport policy on a state-wide basis and sought to set the framework for the development of local government strategies into the future.

The inaugural 2005 Congress highlighted the inadequacy of the present funding arrangements for road infrastructure, and the lack of good asset management documentation outlining present and future funding liabilities.

The 2006 NSW Local Roads Congress is again being organised by the Roads and Transport Directorate with the support of the Local

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Government Association of NSW, the Shires Association of NSW and the Institute of Public Works Engineering (NSW Division).

The 2006 Congress is seen as an opportunity to follow up the successful 2005 Congress and to have a say about Roads and Transport issues that affect Kempsey Shire Council.

A variety of presentations will seek to provide the latest information about Road and Transport issues in NSW, and a forum for elected representatives to debate Roads and Transport Policy in order to develop long term strategies.

It is considered that by the continued support the IPWEA (NSW) Roads and Transport Directorate, and the initiatives agreed to at the Congress, Councillors and staff will have access to a powerful lobby group, as well as a consulting resource that will improve efficiency, avoid duplication and lead the way in NSW towards an integrated approach to asset management.

REPORT IMPLICATIONS:

▪ ***Environmental***

The are no environmental implications arising from the following recommendation.

• ***Social***

The are no social implications arising from the following recommendation.

• ***Economic (Financial)***

The financial implication from the following recommendation is that \$620.00 plus accommodation and travelling expenses would need to be made available for each participant to the Congress.

• ***Policy or Statutory***

There are no policy or statutory implications.

• ***Director's Review***

The NSW Roads Congress will provide Council with an opportunity to have a say into Roads and Transport issues affecting Local Government.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council nominate a delegate to attend the 2006 NSW Local Roads Congress to be held in Sydney on the 15th to 17th October 2006.

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A P Vermeulen
DIRECTOR SHIRE SERVICES