



The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP

Premier of NSW

Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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POINT-TO-POINT CAMERA AT URUNGA CONFIRMED

Point-to-point cameras for heavy vehicles travelling between Urunga and Valla will be installed by September, NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell and Minister for Roads Duncan Gay said today.

"After the recent tragic crash in Urunga the NSW Government has fast tracked a number of safety improvements for the Pacific Highway through Urunga which include the installation of point-to-point cameras," said Mr O'Farrell who is touring the highway with the Roads Minister, Member for Coffs Harbour Andrew Fraser and Member for Port Macquarie Leslie Williams.

"We are determined to do everything we can to increase safety on our roads and minimise the number of accidents.

"A detailed assessment was carried out by Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) to determine the suitability of point-to-point enforcement along this stretch.

"The assessment looked at the crash history and speed compliance in the area and the results showed point-to-point enforcement would be beneficial between Valla (Oyster Creek) and north of Urunga on the Pacific Highway.

"We are also implementing other safety improvements including speed limit reviews, a town entry feature to highlight the transition from rural to urban speeds and switching the existing decommissioned speed camera into warning mode."

Mr Gay said once the new point-to-point enforcement length was installed it would bring the total number of point-to-point enforcement lengths to be rolled out across NSW to 22, with six of those on the Pacific Highway.

"Point-to-point enforcement lengths are selected based on crash history and are located on major freight routes throughout NSW," Mr Gay said.

"Heavy vehicles are often involved in serious crashes. They make up only three per cent of vehicle registrations and five per cent of crashes however they are involved in almost 20 per cent of road fatalities.

"Observations show there has been a very high level of compliance with speed limits in the point to point lengths, demonstrating how effective the program is in improving road safety where they are installed."

“There are 16 point-to-point enforcement lengths currently operating across the State, with 13 issuing fines and three issuing warning letters to speeding heavy vehicle drivers. Six more are planned.”

Member for Coffs Harbour Andrew Fraser welcomed the announcement.

“I’m very pleased that we’ve been able to fast track safety improvements on this road after the very sad accident we saw here earlier this year.

“I know the community will welcome today’s announcement.”

Mr Fraser said the point-to-point enforcement lengths worked by measuring the amount of time it took a heavy vehicle to drive between two points and then calculated the average speed of the vehicle.

“If the vehicle’s average speed is higher than the speed limit for the length of road, the driver will be booked for speeding,” he said.

“All sections of road the cameras are installed on receive certification from a land surveyor.

“This ensures accuracy of average speed calculations and ensures there is no possibility of a driver’s speed being overestimated.”

Point-to-point enforcement applies to heavy vehicles only and has been introduced because it’s more suited to the longer distances which heavy vehicles travel.