Submission by Warrumbungle Shire Council to the Draft Central West and Orana Regional Transport Plan as Resolved by Council on 17 March 2022

Council would like to express its appreciation to Transport for NSW staff for actively engaging with Council and presenting to Councillors and senior staff on 10 February 2022.

Council is generally supportive of the Draft Plan and would like to make the following comments:

Page	Chapter	Issue	Council Comment	Outcome Sought
19	2.1.5	The REZ may provide a catalyst for local change and could allow the region to see some of the benefits from the REZ realised in the transport sector.	What are some of the local benefits of the REZ that are anticipated?	That the report identify and articulate what the benefits of the REZ might be for local communities.
31	3.2.1	Day return services offer options for same-day connectivity to the nearest regional centre by public transport.	The timetabling of bus services especially for health appointments is less than desirable. For example, the service from Coonabarabran arrives in Dubbo at 12 and departs at 2pm. There is an over-reliance on volunteers to provide transport services and these volunteers are ageing.	That timetables for same day services are designed to be flexible and allow Warrumbungle residents the ability to access health and other services in Dubbo. That flexible and on-demand services are provided that reduce the demand on volunteers.
46	3.2.3	Transport for NSW will work with NSW Health and industry representatives to identify additional transport opportunities to connect patients with critical medical appointments across the region.	Council supports this initiative.	That council is consulted on these opportunities once identified.
59	3.2.5	Finally, to continue the efficient transportation of freight across the Central West and Orana, Transport for NSW will work with local government and industry partners to develop a Freight Blueprint for the region. This will include investigating	Council supports the development of a Freight Blueprint.	That the Freight Blueprint takes into consideration the "first and last mile". That the Freight Blueprint

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		opportunities to expand the HPV network across the region, and working collaboratively to address conflict between heavy vehicles and local communities in urban centres.		includes access to Inland Rail. That the Freight Blueprint takes into account heavy vehicle bypass improvements and bridge height restrictions for example in Coolah. That council is engaged in the development of the Freight Blueprint.
70	4.2	Newell Highway Upgrades – Coonabarabran bypass	Council supports the development of the Coonabarabran bypass.	That funding is allocated for the final design and construction of the bypass and that council is engaged and consulted during this process.
73	4.3	Public transport services improvements to and between regional hubs – day return services for towns and villages to their nearest hub	Council supports this initiative.	That timetabling of services are flexible enough to enable reasonable and practical access to health and other services in the nearest hub.
76	4.4	Work with NSW Health to identify opportunities to improve transport for medical services.	Council supports this initiative.	That council is consulted on these opportunities once identified.