

Werriwa Release Only



PRIME MINISTER

Press Statement
3 June 1975

LOCAL ROAD PROJECTS

Residential streets have been included in urban local roads assistance for the first time. This means that Australian Government money can go towards helping local authorities improve streets in their areas.

The Prime Minister and Member for Werriwa, Mr Whitlam said today he was delighted to be able to confirm the Australian Government's policy of providing financial help to local government so as to help improve the urban environment.

Three projects had been approved in the Werriwa electorate, he said. The total cost would be \$191,000 in 1974/75. Mr Whitlam said \$60,000 would be provided for improving St John's Road through reconstruction between Sackville Street and Gladstone Street.

One side of Gordon Road will be reconstructed and kerbed and guttered for \$113,500. This will be in Gordon Road from Newbridge Road to Barry Road. Another \$17,500 will help close some Ingleburn roads for pedestrian use, namely, various roads bounded by Chester Road, Brenda Street, Sackville Street and Ingleburn Road.

Mr Whitlam said that the improvements to residential streets made possible by these grants would have a significant impact on the environment and on people's lives on the immediate area of the local road improvement programs.

He said that a total of \$10.08 million would be allocated to N.S.W. for local road improvements during the 1974/75 to 1976/77 period. In all N.S.W. would get \$2.18 million this financial year 1974/75, rising to \$3.3 million in 1975/76 and \$4.6 million in 1976/77. Mr Whitlam said the level of these grants could be expected to increase in subsequent legislation.

He said approved programs in N.S.W., worked out in co-operation with the N.S.W. Government, included a substantial amount of road and street sealing in fringe areas, as well as strengthening of streets to carry buses. There were also a number of projects which were designed to improve the safety, visual quality and the environment of residential areas, he added.