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MEDIA RELEASE

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STAGE 3 OF WAGGA WAGGA BASE HOSPITAL BEGINS

Wagga Wagga Base Hospital's \$431 million redevelopment has reached another exciting milestone, with a call for tenders for the construction of the six-storey Ambulatory Care Building.

Health Minister Brad Hazzard said Stage 3 is advancing rapidly with excavation of the site due for completion this month and main works set to start early next year.

"The NSW Liberals & Nationals Government is delivering world-class health facilities to the Wagga Wagga community," Mr Hazzard said.

"With Stage 3 now underway, the NSW Government has committed over half a billion dollars since 2011 to the Wagga Wagga electorate.

"This weekend's by-election is a choice between having a strong voice in Government with Liberal candidate Julia Ham or somebody else that doesn't, and can't deliver for the community."

Last week, Mr Hazzard announced a new \$30 million carpark for Wagga Wagga Base Hospital, which will be free for patients, visitors and staff.

The latest designs for the Stage 3 redevelopment were also unveiled today, as well as images showing the proposed 800-space, free multi-storey car park. The new car park, along with about 400 existing car spaces across the campus, will take the total to about 1,200 car spaces – meeting anticipated car parking demand until 2031.

The NSW Government also recently announced 12 additional paramedics for Wagga Wagga – an almost doubling of the workforce – and the \$50 million rebuild of Tumut Hospital, which includes master planning for a future new Ambulance station.

Last month, Mr Hazzard also announced the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government will provide land for a new rural medical school based on the Wagga Wagga Base Hospital campus, boosting health education and training opportunities for the region.

The redevelopment of Wagga Wagga Base Hospital is part of a record \$8 billion investment over the next four years in health infrastructure – a quarter of this going to rural and regional health facilities.

The new Ambulatory Care Building under Stage 3 will include:

- Aged care and rehabilitation inpatient beds
- Older person's mental health

- Renal dialysis unit
- Ambulatory clinics
- Outpatient rehabilitation and allied health
- Education and training facilities
- Undercover car parking for more than 100 cars

Stage 2 delivered the new Acute Services Building and a new emergency department, operating theatres, women's and children's inpatient units, new intensive care unit and a rooftop helipad in 2017. Stage 1 delivered 30 additional mental health beds and was completed in 2013.

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