



**John Barilaro**

Minister for Regional Development

Minister for Skills

Minister for Small Business

## MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 19 June 2015

### **TUMBARUMBA TO ROSEWOOD RAIL TRAIL ON TRACK**

A scenic 21km stretch of unused rail corridor from Tumbarumba to Rosewood in southern NSW could become a vibrant new tourism corridor after its selection for a pilot rail trail program.

Minister for Regional Development John Barilaro said the pilot project decision followed an independent assessment of 12 rail trail funding applications.

“Rail trails are popular for cycling, horse-riding and walking as they’re low impact, encourage healthy lifestyles and environmentally friendly,” Mr Barilaro said.

“Tumbarumba Shire Council put forward the strongest application which sought \$5 million for the Tumbarumba to Rosewood rail trail.

“The Government feels the Tumbarumba proposal is worthy of further investigation as we progress this pilot process.

“Council’s application demonstrated an effective plan for community consultation, a viable operating model and potential for the initiative to generate economic and tourism benefits for the region.

“Further work is required in order for the proposal to be fully developed and then further evaluated, but the proposed trail would potentially run through some of the most scenic countryside in NSW and help to link vineyards, a museum and other small businesses,” Mr Barilaro said.

In early 2015, the NSW Government sought expressions of interest (EOI) in a pilot process targeting organisations interested in creating rail trails along the Casino to Murwillumbah and Tumbarumba to Rosewood rail corridors.

The EOI process also generated six applications for projects along the Casino to Murwillumbah rail corridor and five from local councils outside these corridors.

“There was a wide range of proposals for projects along the Casino to Murwillumbah rail line but some differing views as to the best model and a range of views and options for investment. Further work will be necessary before we can progress proposals on that corridor,” Mr Barilaro said.

Tumbarumba Shire Council will now be invited to work on the development of the pilot project with other NSW Government agencies. For more information visit: [www.trade.nsw.gov.au/rtif](http://www.trade.nsw.gov.au/rtif)

**MEDIA: Edward Martin 0407 901 003**

Follow **John** on social media:

