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'Be grown ups': Scully
by KATE LAHEY in Albury

ROADS Minister Carl Scully has told Lane Cove councillors to "be grown-ups" in their fight for filtration in the planned Lane Cove Tunnel.

Appearing at the NSW Local Government Association in Albury this week, Mr Scully said he still had no reason to believe in-tunnel filtration would be the safest method of reducing pollution once the project was built.

"I know a minority are very interested in what's coming out of the stack, but look, the last time I took a good, long lungful of air next to Epping Rd, I didn't feel too good," he said.

"Let's be grown ups about this. If you propel those exhaust fumes at a certain height and get prevailing winds . . . the air should be better."

Mr Scully said he had sent a team of people to Japan to research the country's tunnel filtration systems.

"Where (filters) are being used, they are primarily being used for visual reasons," Mr Scully said.

"Japan probably leads the way, and I think that was a sound suggestion from council to go there.

Arriving at the conference on Monday, Mr Scully told the 600 local government delegates he would not be delivering a speech, and instead asked for questions without notice. Lane Cove Cr Stephen Bowers was the first up, asking Mr Scully how the matter of exhaust fumes and filtration in relation to the tunnel was coming along.

"The jury's out, I've sent people to Japan, I'm having a look at it," Mr Scully said.

"Just remember it was a state Labor government that delivered the tunnel to Lane Cove.

"We're delivering for a Liberal Party stronghold and I'm unembarrassed about that."

Cr Bowers later asked Opposition leader John Brogden what the Liberal Party's stance was on in-tunnel filtration for Lane Cove.

"We support, first of all, retro-fitting existing stacks in tunnels so that they're filtered," Mr Brogden said.

"Why can't we lead the world on this issue?" Mr Brogden asked.