

Media release
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Long-term planning key to road commitments

Long-term plans for Tasmania's major roads are vital to reducing road trauma, according to the RACT.

"RACT is calling for 10-year plans for all of Tasmania's major roads," RACT Chief Advocacy Officer, Garry Bailey said.

"The Midland Highway is a great example of what a clear, 10-year plan can deliver. The 10-year plan for the Midland Highway provides funding certainty, underpins significant upgrades, allows the civil construction sector to plan for major works and gives motorists a clear outline of when roadworks and upgrades are happening.

"This is why we welcome Labor's commitment to provide a long-term plan for Tasmania's key roads, including the Tasman, Bass, Channel, Arthur, Huon and West Tamar highways.

"It's a great start, but we need to see upgrades within these plans fully funded as well.

"We also welcome Labor's funding commitment towards a range of projects across south, north and north west Tasmania today. However, we would like to see the specific details of these projects."

Mr Bailey said both Labor and the Liberals are making progress towards RACT's road infrastructure priorities this Election.

"The Liberals' commitment to a 10-year plan on the Channel Highway, as well as other southern projects, earlier this week was also welcomed. We eagerly await the release of their roads infrastructure policy in the coming days."

Regarding both the Liberal and Labor commitment to the new Tamar River bridge today, Mr Bailey said that RACT's long term vision for Greater Launceston called for a mode shift towards public and active transport, rather than any large-scale infrastructure projects.

"While we support a feasibility study and the securing of land for projects such as this new bridge, we believe that an agreed-upon mode shift target must be met before the construction of major infrastructure projects."

Read more about RACT's Election priorities here: www.ract.com.au/community/advocating-change/state-election-2021