



26 August 2020

Derwent ferries a step closer in another win for RACT's Greater Hobart Mobility Vision

The long-awaited Derwent Ferry service is a step closer, with the Government calling for ferry operators to register their expressions of interest.

RACT Group CEO, Mark Mugnaioni, said it was a win for the RACT's 30-year Greater Hobart Mobility Vision released in April 2019.

"The Greater Hobart Mobility Vision outlines our plan to tackle congestion and provide safer, more efficient and sustainable approaches to the way we move around Hobart," Mr Mugnaioni said.

"Not only will integrating ferries into Hobart's public transport network provide more flexibility it will also help unlock the River Derwent's potential.

"There is clearly demand for a ferry service. A survey conducted by the RACT in 2018 showed that 63 per cent of respondents living an accessible distance from a proposed ferry route between Bellerive and Hobart said that they would use the service.

"Ferries operate successfully in other cities with similar topographies and population sizes and we're confident that if the Government gets the planning right a ferry service would really benefit the community. The challenge is to ensure that any ferry service is well integrated into the overall public transport network in Hobart and that there is adequate supporting infrastructure, like parking facilities on the eastern shore.

"We welcome the Government's announcement today, we're confident there will be a strong response and we look forward to working with everyone involved to ensure a ferry service has the best possible chance of success."

The RACT's Greater Hobart Mobility Vision is available here - https://hobartvision.ract.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Greater_Hobart_Mobility_Vision-1.pdf