



20 January 2020

RACT ready to work with new Premier to renew focus on road safety upgrades and tackling congestion

RACT is ready to work with new Premier Peter Gutwein to renew the State Government's focus on road safety upgrades and tackling congestion.

In congratulating Mr Gutwein on being voted into the state's top job today, RACT Executive General Manager, Membership and Community, Stacey Pennicott said he had the background and experience to tackle the state's mobility challenges.

"As Treasurer since the Liberals came to power in 2014, Mr Gutwein has overseen funding boosts for road upgrades across the state," she said.

"While some of these have seen pleasing progress in the past five years, particularly in the state's north-west, the Midland Highway, the Huon Highway at Summerleas Rd and the Brooker Hwy at Elwick Rd, there are still a lot of projects that have been allocated funding that are yet to move ahead.

"These include a replacement Bridgewater Bridge, a traffic solution for Hobart's south-east, measures to address congestion in Greater Hobart and Greater Launceston, and further upgrades of the Bass Highway between Wynyard and Marrawah.

"As Premier, it is time Mr Gutwein takes the state forward in addressing urgent road safety and congestion-busting measures."

RACT is calling for better land use planning across municipal boundaries, subsidised public transport and a trial of a driverless bus or trackless tram on Hobart's vacant rail network as part of its submission to the government for the 2020-21 State Budget to be handed down in May.

The submission, which was sent to Mr Gutwein late last year, also includes calls for investment in key transport infrastructure across the state; measures to drive down fuel prices; increased investment in separated cycleways; and continued investment in electric vehicle infrastructure.

“We hope that with new leadership the State Government will return its focus to address these issues that will benefit the lifestyles of all Tasmanians,” Ms Pennicott said.

The full State Budget submission can be found here -

<https://www.ract.com.au/community/advocating-change/budget-priorities>

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