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Road Infrastructure Announcements a Positive Way Forward: RACT

Road infrastructure announcements for the Bridgewater Bridge and the Launceston and Tamar Valley Traffic Vision are both positive announcements for the future of road infrastructure investment in the State, the RACT says.

CEO Harvey Lennon said the Launceston and Tamar Valley Traffic Vision should assist to address increasing congestion issues in Launceston.

“Previous RACT’s budget submission documents identified the need for a long-term congestion strategy for both Hobart and Launceston,” he said.

“With this in mind, today’s announcement is most welcome.

“The proposal to build a new bridge connecting the East and West Tamar Highways from Riverside to Newnham is a proactive and sensible decision that should assist to meet future congestion problems.

“We have already supported previous announcements about the West Tamar Highway, identified by RACT members as the sixth worst road in Tasmania, and welcome the additional announcements today.”

Mr Lennon also noted the earlier announcement at the weekend by the government regarding its Bridgewater Bridge business case submitted to Infrastructure Australia.

“The replacement of the bridge is one of 18 RACT road funding priorities unveiled last calendar year in the lead up to the state election,” he said.

“We estimate that \$600 million will be required to replace the bridge with a four-lane bridge and construct associated new junctions.

“The bridge is a critical piece of infrastructure, and its replacement forms a vital part of the 10-year Midland Highway Action Plan.

We await with interest the outcomes of the request to Infrastructure Australia.”

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