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## **RACT identifies federal budget road spending priorities**

The RACT has identified five large scale projects that should be funded as a priority in next month's federal budget.

They are:

- Bridgewater Bridge – \$600 million to replace existing infrastructure and improve traffic flow and connection from Midland Highway to Brooker Highway.
- Domain/Brooker Highway - \$50 million to improve safety and traffic flow from the Brooker Highway onto and through Domain Highway.
- Sandfly/Huon Highway intersection - \$21 million for safety upgrades to highway intersection to improve line of sight and traffic merges.
- Bass Highway 10-year plan - \$400 million to increase highway to a minimum Ausrap 3 star rating.
- Eastern Hobart approach - \$300 million to increase capacity and improve traffic flow on the eastern approach to the Hobart CBD, including the Sorell/Midway Point causeways, and airport roundabout.

RACT executive general manager Membership & Community Stacey Pennicott said these road infrastructure projects were critical for Tasmanian road user safety and to improve traffic flow.

“The recently-elected Tasmanian Liberal Government announced a number of initiatives during the election campaign related to road safety and road infrastructure improvements,” he said.

“The current Federal Government needs to do the same as part of the budget process.”

Mrs Pennicott said while the RACT noted that the Tasmanian Liberals had committed \$46 million over five years for the Bridgewater Bridge project, it was still well short of what was required.

“The Bridgewater Bridge has been added to Infrastructure Australia’s priority list. We now need a plan to fund and implement improvements.”

“The other key items we have identified are currently not funded,” she said.

“Outside the current Midland Highway safety improvements work, Tasmania has not benefited from any large scale federal road infrastructure investment in recent years.

“It is critical that future funding is budgeted for safety and infrastructure improvement reasons. Tasmanian road funding needs to be prioritised now to ensure we can plan for our future”

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