



CIVIL CONTRACTORS  
FEDERATION

# MEDIA RELEASE

18 November 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## CONSTRUCTION LOBBY WELCOMES FAST TRACK ROAD AND RAIL FUNDING - URGES GOVERNMENT TO SPREAD THE WORK

The powerful Civil Contractors Federation South Australia (CCF (SA)) has come out today and welcomed the announcement by the Prime Minister that there will be a \$400 million boost to SA's road funding including bringing major project work forward and safety upgrades to regional roads.

The CCF (SA) has long campaigned for additional and timely Federal and State Government investment in the State's road network. The Federation feared that funding for the few major road projects under construction was soon to be exhausted, resulting in job losses and economic stagnation. The Federation has also expressed concern that the work that was available, was slow coming to the market from SA's Department of Planning Transport and Infrastructure.

**The call from the Federation now is that every effort must be made to invite tender bids for the work as quickly as possible and for the funded projects to be disaggregated to the fullest extent so that the dollars reach as many SA companies as possible.** The industry lobby says that the investment must stay in South Australia to benefit SA firms, large and small.

In respect to the projects selected for earlier funding, the Federation has expressed dismay that the Augusta Highway between Port Wakefield and Port Augusta, arguably the most important regional road in the State, has again been overlooked for high priority funding. This Highway has high heavy traffic volumes and remains a two-lane road in poor condition. The CCF(SA) says the Highway has seen 65 serious casualties including 25 fatalities in the past three years.

Some of the projects funded and brought forward are the Port Augusta to Perth Road corridor, Victor Harbour Road duplication, Horrocks Highway, Darlington Upgrade and Flinders Link.

Comments attributable to Phil Sutherland, Chief Executive Officer, Civil Contractors Federation (SA)

"We are very pleased both the Federal and State Government have heard our call for additional road funding and for this to be spent sooner than later.

"It is good to see government recognise the proven job creating and economic stimulus possible through public investment in key transport infrastructure.

"Our message to government - don't bundle the work up into big contracts and put the work beyond the reach of the smaller SA firms.

"We want all SA firms - regardless of size - to benefit from this government investment.

### For further Information contact:

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The CCF SA: the peak industry association for the civil contracting sector | influencing government policy and regulation | lobbying and advocating for civil contracting companies | maintaining networks of influential government, media and community contacts | providing information of relevance to civil contracting companies and the community | facilitating opportunities for civil contracting companies to be consulted on matters of importance | hosting social and networking opportunities for civil contractors | promoting the civil contracting sector | delivering civil training programs and courses | providing technical and specialist advisory services to civil contractors | progressing strategies designed to achieve and maintain a safe, sustainable and profitable civil contracting sector.



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“The Augusta Highway is a death trap and warrants duplication as a matter of urgency. How many more people have to die before this road receives the political focus it requires?”

## ABOUT THE CIVIL CONTRACTORS FEDERATION:

The Civil Contractors Federation - South Australia has 500 company members who in turn employ up to 30,000 South Australians. Members are involved in a variety of projects and activities (from small to very large) including the development and maintenance of civil or “horizontal” infrastructure such as roads, bridges, sewer, water and drainage pipelines, dams, wharves, commercial and housing land development. Members are also involved in the preparatory works for mining and other resource developments.

South Australia’s prosperity is dependent upon functional, efficient and cost effective civil infrastructure. Healthy, well-functioning and productive countries depend on infrastructure that civil contractors construct and maintain.

Civil contractors play a prime role in working in working with both public sector and private sector clients in infrastructure delivery. This is the business of civil construction which has historically played a pivotal role in the growth and prosperity of South Australia.

## **For further Information contact:**

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