

## **AMBITIOUS PROPOSAL TO FIX NOTORIOUS TRAFFIC BOTTLENECK GETS NOD FROM KEY S.A. INDUSTRY LOBBY GROUP**

An ambitious proposal to build a large roundabout at a notorious South Australian intersection has received the full support of one of the state's most powerful industry lobby groups.

The "strong show of support" by the Civil Contractors Federation (SA Branch) comes as thousands of motorists/holidaymakers are destined to converge on the renowned bottleneck at Port Wakefield in SA's Mid North this long weekend.

South Australian Transport Minister, Mr Stephen Mullighan, announced recently his favoured solution for the notorious bottleneck - at the intersection of the Copper Coast Highway and Port Wakefield Road - is to construct a large roundabout rather than the more expensive option of building a bi-pass road around the entire Port Wakefield township.

The CCF today upped the ante calling on the State Government to provide a more definitive pathway on when this much overdue project would commence.

"Constructing the roundabout at Port Wakefield - requiring an investment of up to \$8 million - would in a single stroke take the handbrake off a regional economy," Civil Contractors Federation (CCF) Chief Executive, Mr Phil Sutherland, said today.

"Today, we call on the State Government to up the ante and provide a clearer pathway for this much overdue project," he said.

"There is more to this than traffic congestion. More South Australians would holiday on Yorke Peninsula if they didn't have to face a major traffic jam on the way home.

"I also know some high net worth people keen to invest in that part of South Australia who are put off by the traffic congestion issue at Port Wakefield.

"Locally, the plan will not only resolve major traffic congestion at peak times of the year, but it is also an opportunity to use public investment in infrastructure to stimulate the beleaguered local economy and create jobs."

Mr Sutherland warned the only way SA was going to recover from the current poor state of the economy was to "build its way out".

He said public investment in road transport and other infrastructure was a proven job creation and economic stimulus mechanism.

### **For further Information contact:**

Phil Sutherland - CCF SA Chief Executive Officer

M 0402 440 339 P (08) 8111 8000 E [psutherland@ccfsa.com.au](mailto:psutherland@ccfsa.com.au)

“The taxpayer receives up to a ten-fold return for every dollar spent on infrastructure,” Mr Sutherland said.

“It’s no secret regional South Australia – in many ways the backbone of the SA economy - is doing it tough,” he said.

“We encourage government to maximize its return on investment in South Australia and seize this opportunity to deliver economic benefits to a regional community well beyond the road project. This could be an exemplar for other local regional projects.

“The CCF urges the State Government to make this project attractive to local small to medium size civil and other firms. The small guys need a fair go. The project needs to be parcelled up so that as many firms as possible have access to the work.

“We are pleased to see that the businesses within the township are not going to be sacrificed by taking the road around the township. Small business in South Australia is the great job creator. We must always do whatever we can to support small business.”

## **MEDIA CONTACTS:**

**Phil Sutherland**  
Chief Executive Officer  
CCF (SA branch)  
(0402) 440 339  
[psutherland@ccfsa.com.au](mailto:psutherland@ccfsa.com.au)

**Sean Whittington**  
Field PR  
(08) 8234 9555  
(0412) 591 520

## **ABOUT THE CIVIL CONTRACTORS FEDERATION**

The Civil Contractors Federation (South Australian Branch) has 600 company members who in turn employ up to 20,000 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 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:**

Phil Sutherland - CCF SA Chief Executive Officer  
M 0402 440 339 P (08) 8111 8000 E [psutherland@ccfsa.com.au](mailto:psutherland@ccfsa.com.au)