

20 November 2019

## Funding stalemate ends to deliver for commuters

RACQ has welcomed the Federal Government's \$2 billion announcement that would see key transport infrastructure projects fast-tracked in Queensland.

Head of Public Policy Rebecca Michael said RACQ had been calling for funding gap disputes between the State and Federal Governments to be settled and other upgrades to be accelerated since the Federal election.

"We're thrilled critical Pacific Motorway upgrades will be brought forward to deliver congestion relief and improve safety for motorists," Dr Michael said.

"The missing links between Eight Mile Plains to Daisy Hill, Daisy Hill to Logan Motorway and Varsity Lakes to Tugun will create up to five northbound and four southbound lanes.

"Upgrades will fix bottlenecks that have long caused motorists lengthy delays – they'll also increase traffic flow for commuters and get people home faster and safer."

Dr Michael said the \$225 million investment in the Bruce Highway would also go a long way to making the notorious highway safer for commuters.

"The Linkfield Road Overpass and Pine River to Caloundra projects will help reduce the number of crashes and alleviate congestion, with our members telling us these are some of the most frustrating bottlenecks," she said.

Dr Michael said the new funding allocated to Stage 3A of the Gold Coast Light Rail Project would extend the tram from Broadbeach to Burleigh was a big win for commuters.

"Light rail on the Gold Coast will be critical in helping to manage congestion across the region and will improve mobility for residents in the future," she said.

Dr Michael said the \$118.5 million funding for regional Queensland projects including the Roads of Strategic Importance Initiative upgrades linking Townsville to Roma and Toowoomba to Seymour, would help better connect businesses and communities.

"The upgrades will see improvements such as road sealing, flood immunity, strengthening and widening, and pavement rehabilitation."

**Media inquiries: RACQ Head of Public Policy Rebecca Michael 0418 201 179; Media Advisor Vivien von Drehnen 0427 261 932.**

RACQ is Queensland's largest club and peak independent motoring organisation. We were formed in 1905 to represent the interests of the State's first motorists and today campaign for safer drivers, vehicles and roads on behalf of the 1.7 million members who own the Club. We offer those members a vast range of motoring, insurance, banking, entertainment and travel services and benefits, and each year respond to more than a million calls for roadside assistance.