

INVESTING IN ROADS AND TRANSPORT

The 2014-15 ACT Budget makes a \$69.9 million investment into roads and transport across Canberra, Minister for Territory and Municipal Services Shane Rattenbury announced today.

Canberra has the best road network in Australia, and the ACT Government is committed to maintaining and improving our high quality infrastructure, including significant funding of the upgrade of key intersections and transport corridors.

Improving the accessibility of the public transport system is a priority in the 2014-15 Budget, with additional funding for weekend ACTION bus services as well as improved coordination of community buses to supplement the new 'Network 14' bus network. The 2014-15 Budget invests in an upgrade to the Woden Bus Station and construction of a new bus station in Erindale.

The Budget continues additional walking and cycling infrastructure announced as part of the Healthy Lifestyle initiatives.

Improved public transport

- **\$2 million for ACTION over the next four years to deliver new weekend bus services to Molonglo, Harrison, Casey and West Macgregor.** These services will supplement ACTION's Network 14 which will run weekday services into these four suburbs.
- **\$500,000 will go towards developing an enhanced booking system for community transport buses and to better meet the transport needs of the aged and transport disadvantaged.**
- **\$3.25 million is to be invested in the 2014-15 ACT Budget to start the revitalisation of Woden Town Centre and to begin the redevelopment of the bus interchange.** The work to be undertaken includes constructing new stairs, ramps and lighting that will greatly improve public safety and access to the Woden Town Square from the interchange on Bowes Street. The project is an important part of making Callam Street Woden's 'main street' and providing new pedestrian and bicycle connections to properly link Woden's public spaces to commercial and community activity.
- **\$900,000 to upgrade the existing bus stop on Comrie Street in Erindale to a modern, user-friendly bus station.** The new facility will be able to serve ACTION's Blue Rapid route and local routes terminating at Erindale, as well as any future redirections of the rapid routes through Erindale. The project will also deliver improved shelter, seating and lighting and make Erindale Group Centre accessible for all Canberrans.

Intersection upgrades

- **The 2014-15 Budget provides \$10 million over the next three years for an upgrade at the intersection of William Slim Drive and the Barton Highway.** Road infrastructure improvements will be undertaken to ensure the safety and flow of the William Slim Drive and Barton Highway intersection. Works include signalisation and additional lanes on the

roundabout and approaches, on-road cycle lanes, a shared path bridge across Ginninderra Creek, and works to accommodate increased traffic.

- **\$5.3 million is also being delivered to upgrade the Horse Park Drive and Anthony Rolfe Avenue intersection.** This funding will create access to the new suburb of Throsby.
- **\$3.38 million over the next three years to upgrade of five intersections in Dickson Group Centre.** The Dickson Group Centre services one of the largest and most diverse communities in Canberra and the redevelopment of its commercial precinct and these associated road upgrades, demonstrates the government's commitment to the continued revitalisation of the area.

Majura Parkway to Majura Road – link road construction

The ACT Government will deliver funding of \$9.8 million over the next two years for the construction of a link road connecting Majura Parkway to Majura Road. The new link road will provide direct access to the new Majura West Precinct, which includes IKEA and two additional development sites. The project will also provide southbound emergency vehicle access to Canberra Airport from Majura Parkway.

Molonglo infrastructure investment

The 2014-15 Budget will invest \$17 million over the next three years for the construction of infrastructure to support the Molonglo Valley land release program.

The project involves the construction of the East West Arterial Road Stage 2 and the second stage of the Cravens Creek low zone water supply main. The project includes on and off road cycling and pedestrian facilities, street lighting, traffic signals, landscape works and public transport facilities including bus stops.

Traffic Signals for Cotter Road on-ramp

The 2014-15 Budget provides \$700,000 for the design and construction of 'ramp metering' traffic signals at the Cotter Road northbound on-ramp to the Tuggeranong Parkway.

The 'ramp metering' signals are a form of smart traffic management, which intelligently manage the rate of vehicles entering the Tuggeranong Parkway. This will help ensure smooth traffic flow conditions, which will be particularly important as the Molonglo development progresses. The funding includes \$300,000 provided by the Federal Government in 2013-14 for this project as part of the Nation Building Program.

Improved parking options

\$300,000 in funding will see implementation of more parking options throughout the Territory. This will include development of a parking offset and alternative transport options for development and redevelopment in centres. It will also provide for the investigation of parking rates for people with disabilities, reserved parking for parents and carers and commercial parking provision rates.

Through this funding, the government will investigate feasible sites for parking investment in the City and town centres and review parking provision rates, supply and demand. The work will assist in managing the pressure on transport infrastructure and parking while enabling developments and business viability in the City Centre, town centres and supporting infill development.

Other Budget initiatives include:

- \$1.6 million to undertake strengthening work on bridges along the Barton and Monaro Highways to allow usage by higher capacity freight vehicles.
- \$3.2 million over the next four years to cover increased energy costs from the ACT's expanding streetlight and traffic signal system.
- \$6.5 million over the next two years to replace ageing underground fuel storage tanks at the Tuggeranong bus depot with an alternative fuel storage facility.
- \$6.4 million for ACTION's cost of operations.