

MEDIA RELEASE

Canberra Spotlight On Freight Infrastructure Opportunities

The <u>Australian Logistics Council</u> (**ALC**) has put the spotlight on a number of freight infrastructure projects during the 2019 Australian Logistics Industry Parliamentary Function in Canberra this evening.

<u>Help Us Deliver</u> sets out several opportunities around Australia to deal with bottlenecks in our supply chains through targeted infrastructure investments and help make certain the freight network continues to operate efficiently and safely.

"The dedicated professionals who make up our freight logistics industry work tirelessly to deliver about four billion tonnes of goods around Australia each year, which represents 163 tonnes of freight for every Australian," said ALC CEO Kirk Coningham.

"However, our growing population, rising levels of congestion and decades of inadequate planning for freight movement are making the task harder."

"In *Help Us Deliver*, ALC has set out several opportunities to enhance existing infrastructure projects to make them more freight-friendly. We have also identified a number of new projects that we believe should be supported by the Federal Government in order to enhance the performance of key trade gateways, stimulating export and employment growth."

The opportunities set out in *Help Us Deliver* include:

- Enhancing Sydney Gateway by including heavy vehicle access ramps for Australia's largest empty container facility (NSW);
- Ensuring the Fishermans Bend redevelopment permits efficient access to the Port of Melbourne, including connecting Webb Dock to the freight rail network (VIC);
- Supporting the construction of a dedicated freight rail link from Inland Rail to the Port of Brisbane (QLD);
- Undertaking a series of road upgrade projects that will enhance access to Fremantle Inner Harbour (WA);
- Building Tasmania's mineral export potential by supporting a new Bulk Mineral Export Terminal at the Port of Burnie (TAS);
- Improving the efficiency and reliability of freight rail by upgrading track between Tarcoola and Kalgoorlie (SA/WA); and
- Developing a key maritime and logistics precinct in Darwin by investing in the Darwin Ship Lift Facility and supporting upgrades to key water, sewerage, electrical and communication infrastructure for surrounding landholdings (NT).

"Investment in freight infrastructure projects such as those highlighted here will help deliver on the objectives of the recently-released *National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy* and deliver lasting benefits to Australian consumers, businesses and producers."

Wednesday, 23 October 2019

Contact Simon Morgan on 0403 477 131 / simon.morgan@austlogistics.com.au