

## MEDIA RELEASE

### 2020 Infrastructure Priority List Puts Welcome Focus On Freight Strategy

The [Australian Logistics Council](#) (ALC) welcomes the focus on freight infrastructure investment opportunities and the implementation of the [National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy](#) in the **2020 Infrastructure Priority List** released by [Infrastructure Australia](#) (IA).

“Experience has shown that inclusion on the Infrastructure Priority List can be a catalyst for securing investment in critical projects and progressing initiatives vital to Australia’s economic interests and enhancing the liveability of our communities,” said ALC CEO Kirk Coningham.

“IA’s rigorous, independent assessment process means governments, investors and the wider community can have confidence that investing in the projects and initiatives contained on the list will address genuine economic and social needs.”

“The National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy, first included on the list in 2016, is an obvious example. ALC is pleased the Strategy remains as a High Priority Initiative on this year’s list, with a renewed focus underscoring the importance of its implementation phase.”

“It is especially pleasing to see a high degree of alignment between projects and initiatives contained on the Infrastructure Priority List and priorities reflected in the [National Action Plan](#) associated with the Strategy. Among these are:

- Completing the Port Botany freight rail line duplication;
- Constructing the North East Link in Melbourne to alleviate traffic congestion and enhance freight efficiency;
- Preserving a corridor for a dedicated freight rail connection from Inland Rail to the Port of Brisbane;
- Completing the Adelaide North-South corridor upgrade;
- Investing in road and rail improvements for the Burnie to Hobart freight corridor;
- Upgrading road connections and road capacity for Moorebank Intermodal Terminal and Western Sydney Airport;
- Implementation of the Advanced Train Management System on the ARTC network; and
- Improving mobile telecommunications in regional and rural areas to enhance the safety and efficiency of freight operations.

“ALC also welcomes the inclusion of new freight-specific projects on the list for 2020, including the Peak Downs Highway Realignment (QLD) and the Bindoon Bypass (WA), both of which will enhance freight connectivity, efficiency and transit times.”

“Finally, ALC notes that the Sydney Gateway remains listed as a High Priority Initiative which will allow *“port traffic to avoid local arterial roads”*. As ALC and industry groups have previously [observed](#), this objective can only be fully realised if the NSW Government reinstates dedicated access ramps for heavy vehicles at Canal Rd in the design for the project.”

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