

# Media Release

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## LONG TERM INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN NEEDED: UDIA

A whole of government infrastructure investment plan that provides a long term strategy for the delivery of State infrastructure is urgently required in WA, according to UDIA's CEO, Allison Hailes.

The Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA WA) has welcomed today's launch of the Infrastructure Coalition's *Building the West* paper that calls for improved long term infrastructure planning for the state.

"This issue has a major impact on new homebuyers in WA as poor infrastructure planning and funding leads to costly delays and the growing need for developers to pre-fund infrastructure which severely impacts on housing affordability," UDIA CEO Allison Hailes said.

"Infrastructure planning must go beyond political cycles and deliver long term surety for all those involved in development projects around the state," Ms Hailes said.

"Other States have infrastructure strategies in place that identify the productive infrastructure they require over the next 30 years to create jobs, communities and economic prosperity. Why not WA?" asked Ms Hailes.

"Efficient urban development relies on coordinated infrastructure planning, investment and delivery to enhance social, economic and environmental sustainability of our urban areas," Ms Hailes said.

"As is pointed out in the *Building the West* paper, WA is well behind other states in regard to these issues, with New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland already having a long term strategy in place for infrastructure provision," Ms Hailes said.

"One of the biggest issues impacting on housing availability and affordability is infrastructure," Ms Hailes commented.

"Infrastructure might not be a glamorous topic, but it is critically important to our future" Ms Hailes said. "We need to identify what infrastructure Perth requires to become a truly accessible, sustainable and connected city, and then we need a commitment to the funding and delivery of it over the long term."

**Ends.**

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