



# MEDIA STATEMENT

## WA industry calls for independent statutory infrastructure body

WA's peak industry associations call on whoever forms the next WA government to establish an independent statutory body for infrastructure. The clear requirement for such a body has united the Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA (CCI), Property Council of Australia, Engineers Australia, Construction Contractors Association of WA, Urban Development Institute of WA, and the Master Builders Association. Together, these organisations represent a total of 32,000 members and 470,000 employees.

An independent statutory infrastructure body must deliver transparent, bipartisan infrastructure plans for the short, medium and long term.

It's essential that infrastructure planning transcends short-term politics and facilitates early and sustained engagement of the community and industry with government in the identification and shaping of future projects.

On behalf of the industry groups, Engineers Australia General Manager WA, Susan Kreemer Pickford, commented that "WA urgently needs an independent infrastructure body to develop a long-term infrastructure plan. Government must treat this as a priority."

The CEO of the Urban Development Institute of Australia, Allison Hailes, also representing the industry groups, stated that "the current approach is not sustainable — Perth can only become a truly prosperous, liveable and connected city if the provision of all major infrastructure is carefully planned and coordinated by an independent body."

Finally, CCI Chief Executive Officer Deidre Willmott said "an independent body will achieve greater innovation in funding and delivery of infrastructure projects. Long-term plans will provide certainty to guide investment, enhance productivity and make communities more viable by providing jobs, housing and local amenity. These initiatives will also create the context and confidence for skills development and labour requirements."

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