



## Sustainable road building and maintenance are critical to WA's first ever State Infrastructure Strategy

The Australian Flexible Pavement Association (AfPA) welcomes the Western Australian (WA) Government's first State Infrastructure Strategy, *Foundations for a Stronger Tomorrow*, which is currently available for public comment.

Peter Damen, Executive Director of AfPA for WA, said:

*"AfPA is supportive of the long-term infrastructure planning outlined in the Strategy, as it will be critical in underpinning sustainable economic and population growth in WA and ensuring a robust road building and maintenance industry."*

*"AfPA has long advocated for government to take a longer-term approach as it allows industry, including AfPA members, to plan accordingly and ensure road projects can be delivered on time and on budget."*

*"We also welcome the Strategy's focus on sustainability, which is a priority for our members who are bringing the latest innovations in sustainable materials and building practices to roads in WA."*

A key component of the Strategy is progressing next stage plans for METRONET and long-term road projects, and while AfPA is fully supportive of this, Mr Damen urged the government not to lose sight of the importance and economic value of maintaining existing roads.

*"Building new roads is critical as the state's population grows, but just as important is maintaining WA's existing road network, so residents and workers can travel efficiently and safely. Maintenance also creates twice as many jobs for the same budget, is quicker to help stimulate the economy, and can help to smooth out the peaks and troughs that are inherent in infrastructure projects."*

*"We are looking forward to continuing our work with the WA government to ensure a healthy flexible pavement industry, which delivers positive outcomes for the state."*

AfPA members are encouraged to review and comment on the Strategy here:

<https://www.infrastructure.wa.gov.au/state-infrastructure-strategy>