



**Australian Flexible Pavement Association media release**

## **AfPA welcomes funding to prevent fatalities on remote roads**

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November**

The Australian Flexible Pavement Association (AfPA) has welcomed the announcement of a \$150 million commitment by the Commonwealth Government to upgrade unsealed roads in rural and remote Australia.

The Remote Roads Upgrade Pilot Program is set to offer local councils up to 100% funding on works that will improve safety and help save lives on some of Australia's long-neglected roadways, including resurfacing, removal of dangerous corners and vegetation management.

The program, announced by Deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce, is part of the Government's larger \$110 billion nationwide infrastructure investment program.

AfPA has praised the pilot as a critical, lifesaving commitment to regional communities and councils. However, is calling for more reliability in upgrades and maintenance pipelines for existing transport routes and roads.

Carlos Rial, CEO of AfPA, said:

“Simply put, this announcement will save lives. Latest data from the NSW Centre for Road Safety shows that 70% of road fatalities occur on rural and regional roads, it is fantastic to see that steps are being taken to address this urgent issue.

“Road upgrades and maintenance are critical. Our roads connect individuals with healthcare, essential goods, services and loved ones, this is especially true in rural and remote communities

“It is pleasing to see the Government recognise the importance of key maintenance and upgrade projects on Australia's roads which provide immediate benefits to users, not just new project announcements.”

Click [HERE](#) for more information.