



Australian Flexible Pavement Association media release

Australian Taxpayers Support Infrastructure Reinvestment

Wednesday 28th September 2022

The Australian Flexible Pavement Association (AfPA) has welcomed independent findings from the Australian Automobile Association, revealing that 67% of survey respondents believe 100% of tax raised through fuel excise should be reinvested back into road and transport infrastructure.

The survey of 1910 Australians, conducted by Insightfully, also revealed that 56% of people would support the fuel excise returning to full rate on the condition that tax raised is dedicated to improving transport infrastructure.

AfPA has welcomed the AAA's findings, citing that the research points to a glaring need for greater consistency of investment in infrastructure maintenance pipelines. AfPA also highlighting the need for more circular investment strategies, which demonstrate transparent application of revenue back into roads and other critical infrastructure, especially those in poor condition.

AfPA CEO, Carlos Rial, said:

“We applaud the initiative taken by the Australian Automobile Association and welcome the notion of reinvestment into key transport infrastructure, however, this reallocation should prioritise addressing the poor condition of road networks first and foremost.

“Traditionally, the percentage of fuel excise that is reinvested into the nation's roads has been very low, for this reason, any innovations which support a better maintained road network across the country are ones AfPA and its members are pleased to see.”

In the AAA's media release announcing the findings, which can be read in full here, Managing Director, Michael Bradley, said:

“High fuel costs continue to be a major concern for Australian motorists, who clearly expect the taxes they pay at the bowser to be spent on making their transport network safer and more effective.

“It is clear that a strong majority of motorists oppose a 25 cent per litre increase in fuel excise, but motorists are more accepting of this tax if they see it being spent on the roads and transport infrastructure their communities need.”