



Australian Flexible Pavement Association media release

AfPA Welcomes NSW Plan To 'Build Back Better'

Wednesday 07th October 2022

The Australian Flexible Pavement Association (AfPA) has welcomed a joint announcement from the Federal Minister for Emergency Management, the NSW Minister for Regional NSW and the NSW Minister for Regional Transport and Roads, announcing \$312.5 million to future-proof Northern NSW Roads.

The package, which is jointly funded by the Commonwealth and New South Wales governments, will see 26 flood effected councils eligible to receive the package aimed at assisting them to build back better and more resiliently.

AfPA's most recent call for forward-thinking infrastructure investment came in August in the wake of the Response to Major Flooding Across NSW in 2022 Report, which found that councils were in urgent need of financial support to rebuild critical roadways.

AfPA has applauded the collaboration between all levels of Government to shift focus from a traditional 'band-aid fix' approach toward a more proactive approach, creating weather resilient roads and infrastructure.

Carlos Rial, AfPA CEO, welcomed the announcement and called on Government to develop a sustainable pipeline of maintenance rather than a one-off payment.

"As unprecedented rainfall continues to hit NSW, it is more important than ever that we build resilient infrastructure that is ready to withstand increasingly erratic weather events due to climate change.

"The NSW Government's package is another positive step in the right direction. To ensure industry is ready to roll out this infrastructure program, we need certainty around project pipelines so companies can invest in the people and materials needed to build back better."