



AfPA welcomes the Albanese Government's Transport and Infrastructure Net Zero Roadmap and Action Plan as a step in the right direction

Wednesday 17th May 2023

The Australian Flexible Pavement Association (AfPA) has welcomed the Hon Catherine King's statement reaffirming the Albanese Government's commitments towards a cleaner, more inclusive and better-connected transport future as the Minister travels to this year's APEC transportation meeting.

The statement, made by the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, reinforced the development of a comprehensive Transport and Infrastructure Net Zero Roadmap and Action Plan, announced in the 2023-24 Federal Budget. The action will see \$8.4 million invested to fund a strategy that ensures support for transport, alternative fuels, new technology and infrastructure to transition to net zero.

AfPA has welcomed the reaffirmed pledge and applauded the Minister's commitment to international knowledge sharing, ensuring Australia is accessing innovations and global best practices as it relates to sustainable roads and transport.

AfPA, however, has once more called on procurement agencies and relevant industry bodies to do more to ensure that sustainability goals are targeted and measurable, citing its Sustainability Framework for Pavement (SF4P) as example. The Sustainability Framework has been developed through extensive consultation with industry and is based on circular economy concepts, including Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) approaches.

It encourages stakeholders to consider the UN Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs) and recognises the industry's role in helping to reduce waste and contribute toward Australia's emissions reduction targets.

AfPA has called on relevant bodies to adopt the SF4P and to embed this into procurement processes to begin setting quantifiable metrics and benchmarks that will ultimately drive a reduction in the environmental impacts associated with asphalt production and operations across the flexible pavement industry.

Investing in a sustainable transport future is not only necessary but also beneficial for the sector. AfPA applauds the Albanese Government's commitment to a cleaner, more inclusive, and better-connected transport future. We must prioritise sustainability in our transport infrastructure to meet net-zero targets, and the \$8.4 million investment in a Transport and Infrastructure Net Zero Roadmap and Action Plan puts us another step in the right direction.