



QUEENSLAND MAJOR  
CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

**Monday 6 June 2016**

### **Pre-State Budget Statement by the Queensland Major Contractors Association**

The Queensland Major Contractors Association (QMCA) is looking for the coming Queensland State Budget to put in place a funded and well-founded infrastructure plan to create a reliable project pipeline for industry, QMCA President, Iain Ward said today.

“As highlighted in QMCA’s 2016 Major Project Report, major project investment in Queensland has collapsed by more than half since its peak in 2012/13. Major project investment declined from more than \$15 billion in 2012/13 to just \$4.4 billion in 2016/17. Our concern is the significant risk that major project work will not meet the future infrastructure demands of Queensland”.

“A long-term plan should include appropriate prioritisation of projects with funding allocated transparently. This will ensure that Government funds are directed at projects which have the potential to deliver the greatest economic and social benefits.”

“A certain and consistent pipeline of work also provides project proponents with the confidence to invest in infrastructure, retain existing workforces and the opportunity to employ more people.”

“The need to grow infrastructure in a fiscally responsible way means that the Budget should also take into account infrastructure funding.”

“The state’s ambitions on infrastructure will be clearly constrained until the Government develops new and innovative ways to fund vital road, rail, health, utility and other social infrastructure projects. In this respect, it is critical that the Government does not rule out asset recycling.”

“Queensland must take the lead of Governments elsewhere in Australia, particularly NSW and Victoria, who have been able to boost their investment in productivity enhancing infrastructure by the reform and lease of state-owned assets.”

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In taking up the mantle of driving infrastructure we also advocate the need for:

- A consistent approach in the development and management of infrastructure proposals across the government sector at the state level.
- Greater responsibility taken by the Government in the coordination of infrastructure projects so as to avoid infrastructure or construction capacity constraints and enable major projects to be funded and developed in a timely manner.
- Early contractor and early supply chain involvement in the development of infrastructure projects to maximise cost efficiencies available from the roll-out of major projects.
- Assistance to the private sector in the efficient deployment of both capital and resources by providing early alerts to industry on the level of priority attached to major infrastructure projects and the anticipated funding arrangements.
- Implementation by the Government of best practice principle within its own infrastructure delivery responsibilities.

The 2016/17 Budget is an important opportunity to achieve these ambitions.

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