

2020-2021

BUDGET PRIORITIES

MOVING TASMANIA
INTO THE FUTURE



About RACT

RACT enjoys a trusted position and extensive market penetration in the community. Almost 200,000 Tasmanians are RACT members.

RACT employs between 420-500 Tasmanians (subject to seasonal requirements) in its core functions of roadside assist, hotel and accommodation services, insurance and statewide retail network

RACT operates Strahan Village, Freycinet Lodge, Gordon River Cruises and Cradle Mountain Hotel.

It is the largest and strongest member organisation in Tasmania. Formed in 1923, RACT is an apolitical and independent transport infrastructure, road safety, tourism and mobility advocate.

It is committed to supporting and furthering the interests of Tasmanians and does this through a comprehensive program of consultation, education, awareness and public advocacy.

RACT is represented by senior staff in a number of stakeholder reference organisations in Tasmania and undertakes structured liaison with government and other stakeholder groups. It also has three regional advocacy committees, which are made up of local volunteers.

Nationally, RACT is a constituent member of the Australian Automobile Association (AAA), which represents some 8 million Australian motorists. RACT is a regular contributor to the committees and forums of the AAA.

Internationally, RACT has joined with other Australian motoring organisations as a member of the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) to work on road safety and related issues at a global level.

RACT's advocacy and public policy activity is defined by a series of policy documents developed and endorsed by the RACT Advocacy Committee and RACT Board.

These policies have been informed by history, experience, statistical analysis, consultation, industry knowledge and our members.

OUR VISION

SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE
MOBILITY THAT
DELIVERS A
SUSTAINABLE FUTURE
FOR TASMANIA.

WE STAND FOR A
SAFER, PROGRESSIVELY
MOBILE TASMANIAN
COMMUNITY THAT
CAREFULLY CONSIDERS
ITS LONGER-TERM
TRANSPORT OPTIONS
IN KEEPING WITH A
MORE SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE.

WE ARE THE VOICE
OF OUR MEMBERS
AND THE TASMANIAN
COMMUNITY.

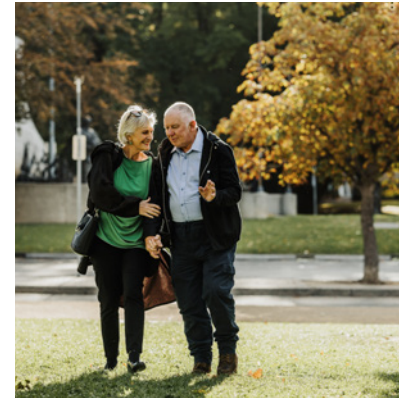




Keeping Tasmanians safe on and around our roads

Our aim is to reduce the state's road toll and lower the impact of serious injury in keeping with the benchmarks outlined by federal and state governments.

Our priorities are detailed in our policy document **Tasmanian Road Futures 2019** and summarised in this submission.



Creating a sustainable future

RACT is committed to ensuring that Tasmania's future transport options provide better health and wellbeing outcomes for our community.



Progressing Tasmania's future mobility

We want Tasmania to be prepared for the future through delivery of cleaner, more efficient transport methods such as autonomous and electric vehicles, and provide for safe, separated infrastructure for bikes and pedestrians.

2020 BUDGET PRIORITY 1

Infrastructure and policies that keeps Tasmanians and visitors safe on our roads

The safe systems approach to road safety ensures that roads are designed to reduce the risk of crashes occurring, and the severity of injuries should a crash occur.

Tasmanian roads should be upgraded to a minimum 3-star AusRAP rating. To achieve this, considered investment is required now to ensure roads are upgraded based on priority of need.

RACT has used a range of statistical and qualitative data to determine its priority list. This includes analysis of Tasmanian crash data, AusRAP data and stakeholder discussions, as well as survey information obtained from RACT's members and advisory committees.

The full list of road priorities is contained in RACT's document 2019 Tasmanian Road Futures, with the highlights as follows:

- Bass Highway 10-year Plan.
- 30-year Greater Hobart Mobility Vision (Year 1-5 \$64 million).
- Launceston & Tamar Valley Traffic Vision.
- Tasmanian Tourist Roads Investment.
- Safety upgrades on Channel and Huon Highway.
- Implementation of current approved major projects – Bridgewater Bridge and South East Traffic Solution.





Long-term planning is key to delivering infrastructure that meets community needs now and into the future.

2020 BUDGET PRIORITY 2

Affordable transport costs to improve Tasmanian liveability

In relative terms, Hobart has the least affordable transport costs of all Australian cities. Similarly, on the same basis, Launceston is the least affordable regional location in Australia. (Source: AAA Transport Affordability Index – Quarter 3 2019).

RACT is seeking Government intervention in the fuel market to assist manage the cost of fuel for motorists. With Tasmanians having the highest cost of fuel in the country, the Government should look to other jurisdictions to leverage learnings from changes made to reporting of fuel pricing.

RACT is also asking the Tasmanian Government to incentivise public transport options to provide cost-effective choices for transport.

RACT is asking the Government to:

- Fund and manage a FuelCheck program that makes it compulsory for fuel retailers to report their fuel prices in real-time.
- Fully review public transport options to enable a seamless service that subsidises patronage.

2020 BUDGET PRIORITY 3

A framework that supports long-term planning across interconnected Tasmanian communities

Through the development of the 30-year Greater Hobart Mobility Vision, it was clear that the current framework for planning larger scale projects did not work across municipal boundaries.

Planning decisions must address wider community impacts and take into account long-term needs and impacts on the wider infrastructure network.

Large infrastructure and public transit corridors need to be planned to meet population growth, urbanisation and changing mobility needs across wider community areas than current boundaries.

RACT budget request:

- Development of a state-level settlement strategy.
- Planning decision framework that ensures impact assessment occurs across Tasmanian municipal areas and incorporates a strong focus on the short and long-term traffic and mobility impacts.





Tasmania is well-placed to lead the nation in implementing sustainable mobility options.

2020 BUDGET PRIORITY 4

Mobility projects that set Tasmania up for a more sustainable future

We want Tasmania to be future-ready through delivery of cleaner, more efficient transport methods such as electric vehicles, and provide for safe, separated infrastructure for bikes and pedestrians.

RACT is requesting:

- Continued investment in electric vehicle infrastructure in key Tasmanian locations as outlined in our RACT Electric Vehicle Charging Vision 2019.
- Investment in a public trial of autonomous vehicle technology, following RACT's one week demonstration with City of Hobart and Tasmanian Climate Change Office.
- Increased investment in separated cycling infrastructure.

Trial examples could include:

- An autonomous shuttle bus trial with first and last mile opportunities.
- An autonomous bus or trackless tram trial on the vacant rail network in Hobart.
- A trial of Cooperative Intelligent Transport Systems on vehicles that allows for smart signalling and traffic light timing at intersections.
- Trialling how autonomous vehicles communicate with each other and with roadside infrastructure.

