

Media release

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Sustainable road funding a good step, but maintenance budget needs to keep pace

The RACT says the Government appears to have delivered on all its commitments in this year's budget.

Chief Advocacy Officer, Garry Bailey, said it was good to see road funding being aligned to capacity within industry.

"We need clear, transparent ten-year plans for our major roads, free of politics and the election cycle," Mr Bailey said.

"However, we also need to make sure the maintenance budget keeps pace. We've seen key sections of some of our major highways crumble. I'd urge the Premier and the Minister for Infrastructure to pay attention to the state of the Bass Highway between Launceston and Devonport when they go on their budget roadshow tomorrow.

"When we have members telling us they are counting the potholes, the Government should realise it has a problem. We would encourage the Government to boost the maintenance budget if that's what is needed because it hasn't been enough in past budgets.

"While our members support new and improved roads being built, they are very concerned that the maintenance work isn't being done to support the initial investment and we'd encourage the Government to look at that.

"The Legislative Council Inquiry into Road Safety is also likely to make a range of recommendations to Government and we would like to see some of the infrastructure budget set aside to fund the recommendations when they are released."