

2021-2022

Budget Priorities

Thinking differently about road safety

RACT

About RACT

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

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

We are committed to supporting and furthering the interests of Tasmanians and we do this through a comprehensive program of consultation, education, awareness and public advocacy.

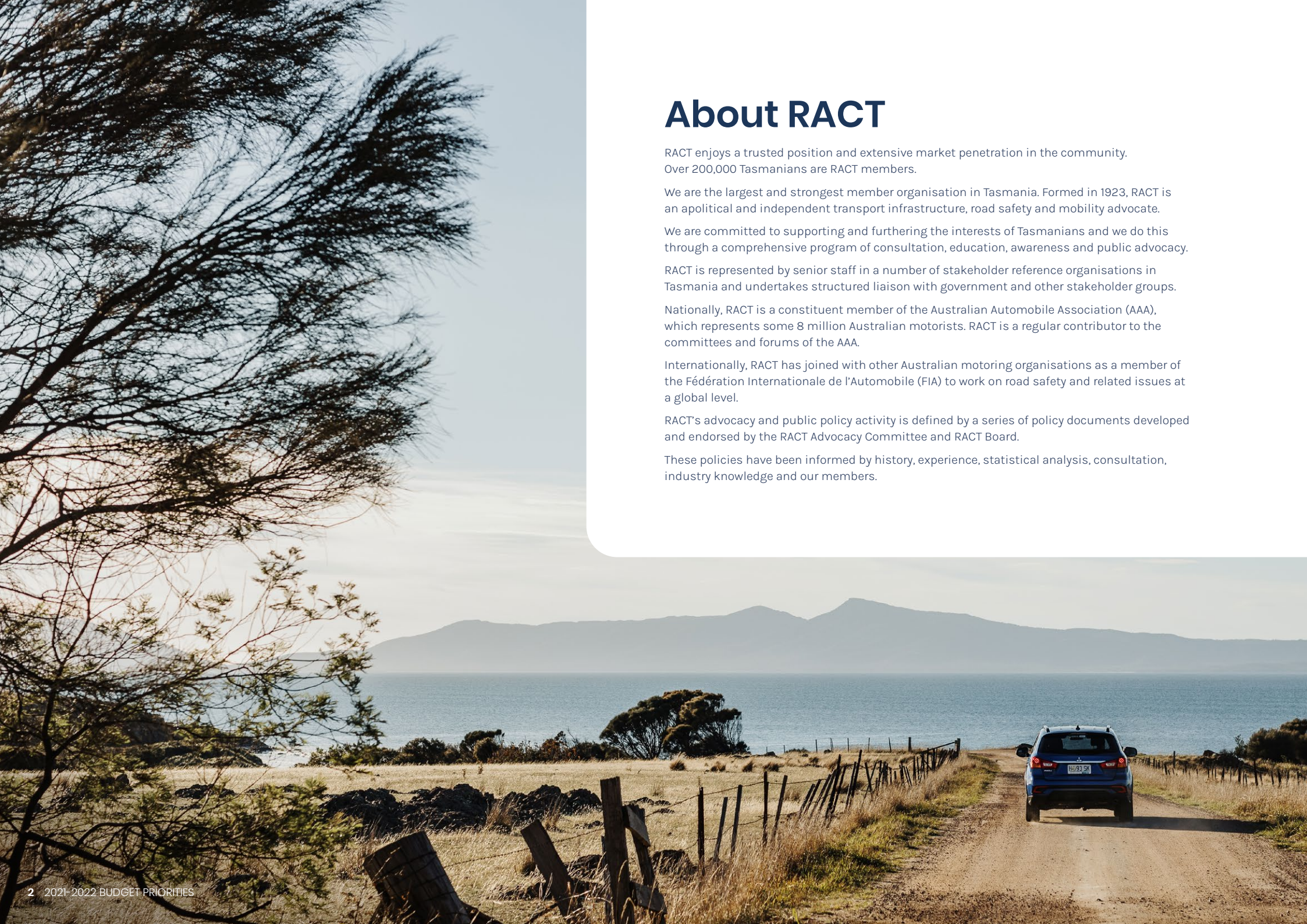
RACT is represented by senior staff in a number of stakeholder reference organisations in Tasmania and undertakes structured liaison with government and other stakeholder groups.

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 improves the lives of Tasmanians.

We stand for a safer, progressively mobile Tasmanian community that carefully considers its longer-term transport options in keeping with a better future.

We are the voice of our members and the Tasmanian community.



Our Priorities



Improved road safety strategies for Tasmania

Tasmania did not reach the outcomes identified under the 2011-2020 National Road Safety Strategy. As we consider the best way to tackle the problem across the next ten years, we must look at best practice options nationally and globally. Tasmanians deserve to be safe on our roads and to do this we must think differently, taking on creative options that bring about real change.



Accessible mobility

Our members are telling us that they cannot access the mobility options they need and it's impacting the way they live their lives. We need more affordable, accessible and reliable options to enable Tasmanians to live healthy and meaningful lives.



Effective road funding mechanisms

The way in which we fund our roads should be fair and equitable and lead to better outcomes across regional and urban areas.

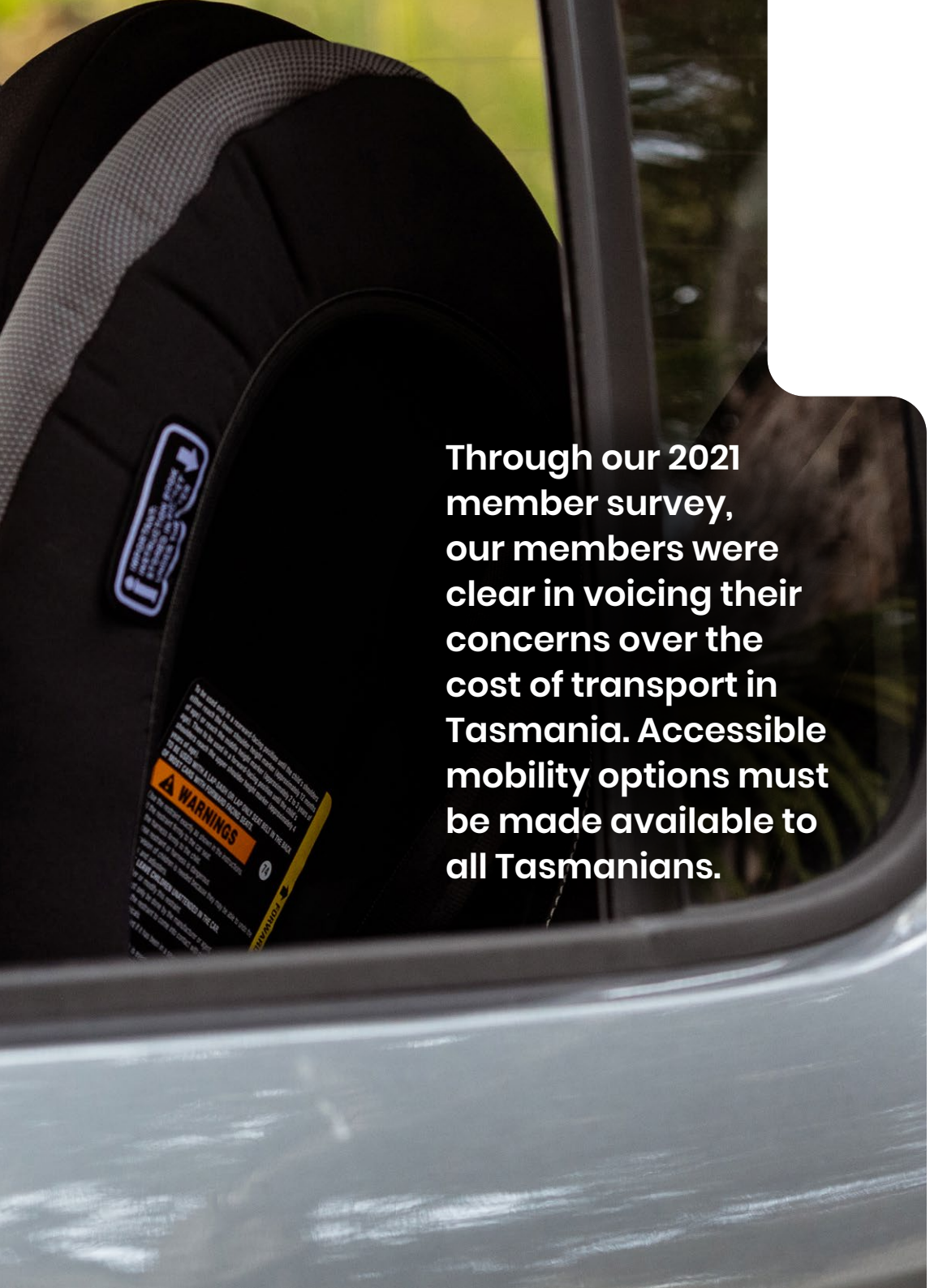
2021 BUDGET PRIORITY 1

Reduce the number and the impact of road crashes in Tasmania

We are seeking a clear action plan, specifically requesting a review of road safety in Tasmania. Our immediate requests for road safety improvements include:

- A fresh Tasmanian Road Safety Strategy (TRSS), informed by global best practice that is committed to and funded by government.
- Funding for a statewide, interactive RACT road safety education program(s) for metro and regional schools Kinder to Year 12 - $2.8 million.
- Funding for an RACT nation-leading driver trainer education program to lift the quality and capacity of Tasmanian driver trainers across Tasmania - $800,000.
- Hypothecation of road funding from speeding fine revenue to fund a new Tasmanian road safety strategy and action plan.
- Funding to update and re-launch the RACT driver training and log book app.





Through our 2021 member survey, our members were clear in voicing their concerns over the cost of transport in Tasmania. Accessible mobility options must be made available to all Tasmanians.

2021 BUDGET PRIORITY 2

Affordable and accessible mobility costs

In relative terms, Hobart has the least affordable transport costs of all Australian cities. Similarly, Launceston is the least affordable regional location in Australia. (*Source: AAA Transport Affordability Index – Quarter 3 2020*).

The introduction of real time fuel pricing has resulted in a saving to Tasmanian motorists of over $10 million in the three-month period December 2020 - February 2021. It is clear that this initiative plays a key role in ensuring price transparency and consumer choice for Tasmanians and its continued long term funding needs to be assured.

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:

- Fully 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.

2021 BUDGET PRIORITY 3

Development of a clear and effective road funding framework and mechanism

We are seeking a review of the way in which roads and road maintenance is funded to ensure that roads are built and maintained to appropriate standards.

Specifically we are looking for:

- Introduction of a road maintenance mechanism that results in increased investment in road maintenance programs to improve the long term quality of the Tasmanian road network regardless of ownership.
- Increased long term funding program to upgrade and improve Tasmania's major road infrastructure with particular focus on a 10-year Bass Highway Plan




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Tasmania - Explore the possibilities
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