



MEDIA RELEASE: 2019-20 VICTORIAN BUDGET

PALLAS DELIVERS STRONG INFRASTRUCTURE BUDGET DESPITE REVENUE WRITE DOWN

Treasurer Tim Pallas has delivered another stellar infrastructure budget for the people of Victoria, despite domestic headwinds and a downward revision to the state's stamp duty revenue, says industry think tank Infrastructure Partnerships Australia.

"Once again Treasurer Tim Pallas has delivered a welcome boost to infrastructure spending in Australia's fastest growing state," said Infrastructure Partnerships Australia, Chief Executive Adrian Dwyer.

"In his fifth Budget, Treasurer Pallas has increased funding for infrastructure by \$12.7 billion, bringing total funding to a record \$53.7 billion over the forwards.

"This is an impressive infrastructure budget, made even more remarkable because it's delivered in the face of global challenges and a considerable write down in revenue.

"The Andrews Government is making critical investments in infrastructure across the state, including \$6.6 billion for additional level crossing removals, \$1.5 billion for the new Footscray Hospital PPP, and \$1.4 billion for new prison infrastructure.

"The Treasurer's sensible decision last year to increase the borrowing cap to 12 per cent of GSP has enabled the Andrews Government to retain its AAA credit rating and continue delivering an impressive infrastructure agenda.

"Victoria has been able to release the fiscal gates on infrastructure funding precisely because it has rehabilitated the budget, kept costs under control, and borrowed sensibly.

"With the global economy slowing down and inflation still persistently low, infrastructure investment will be key to driving demand in the difficult years ahead," said Mr Dwyer.

Infrastructure Partnerships Australia is the nation's leading infrastructure think tank, providing independent policy research focused on excellence in social and economic infrastructure.

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