



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT STIMULUS INJECTION A SMART PLAY

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Infrastructure Partnerships Australia has welcomed the Federal Government's \$1.8 billion stimulus injection into local roads and communities across Australia.

"The Federal Government has delivered a well-structured initial stimulus package that will drive broad-based job creation at the local level where it is needed.

"We made clear from the outset of this crisis that high-velocity infrastructure stimulus was the best way to support the economy in the near term and we're glad to see the Federal Government has listened.

"The new \$500 million Local Road and Community Infrastructure Program and acceleration of \$1.3 billion of the 2020-21 Financial Assistance Grant payment targets the right projects that will have benefits long after COVID-19 has passed.

"The focus on labor-intensive investments in local road networks and community infrastructure is smart because they can be quickly deployed to market and have broad-based benefits.

"While a focus on the immediate term stimulus priorities is welcome, the Federal Government also needs to think about how it can support aggregate demand over the longer term.

"If we want to get out of this economic crisis, a renewed focus is required from the Federal Government and the National COVID-19 Coordination Commission on incentivising state-led reform that supports growth and builds the productive capacity of the economy," said Mr Dwyer.

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

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