



VICTORIA TAKES MAJOR STEP TO MODERNISE ROAD FUNDING

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[Infrastructure Partnerships Australia](#) welcomes the move today by the Victorian Government to introduce legislation into Parliament that will modernise Victoria's road funding system through a modest distance-based charge on zero and low emission vehicles.

"The Victorian Government has taken an important step today to modernise the way Victorians pay to use roads," said Infrastructure Partnerships Australia, Chief Executive Adrian Dwyer.

"Applying a distance-based charge on EVs will ensure every motorist makes a fair contribution to the use of the roads and allow us to keep building and maintaining them for generations to come.

"We encourage the cross-bench to view this future-focused legislation alongside the Government's measures to support EV uptake and support its passage through Parliament.

"This legislation can be combined with further incentives to make it easier for Victorians to buy an EV, meaning we can have our cake and eat it too.

"Independent modelling by EY shows definitively that a modest road user charge, will not retard uptake of EVs - which will still be cheaper to own and run than a petrol or diesel option.

"On average, a motorist driving an EV would pay \$330 each year through a distance-based charge, even before the annual \$100 vehicle registration discount, while the average petrol or diesel vehicle motorist pays \$600.

"Rather than disincentivise uptake, this charge will provide certainty to prospective Electric Vehicle owners now, and certainty that the infrastructure we rely on will continue to be funded into the future.

"Other countries and states around the world, including New Zealand, California, South Australia, Oregon and Utah have already moved to introduce comparable mechanisms and pilots to help future-proof the way they pay for road building and maintenance," 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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