



ITS TIME TO START THE INFRASTRUCTURE REFORM JOURNEY

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Infrastructure Partnerships Australia welcomes the release of Infrastructure Australia's *2021 Australian Infrastructure Plan* and calls for concerted action to pursue productivity-enhancing reform across Australia's infrastructure sectors.

"The 2016 Australian Infrastructure Plan set the destination for infrastructure reform in Australia, and now the 2021 Plan gives us the route to get there," said Infrastructure Partnerships Australia Chief Executive, Adrian Dwyer.

"The challenge for policy makers is now to get infrastructure reform moving.

"You can make a career out of writing reports, but you can't build a 21st Century economy out of them without actually doing what they say.

"The destination is well known, the route is clear – but we won't get there by admiring the quality of the map – It's time to start the reform journey.

"It will take the public and private sectors working together, government leadership at local, state and national levels, and a laser-like focus on improving the way we plan, deliver and regulate infrastructure.

"We were particularly pleased to see a continued focus on road network pricing, which was a major reform priority in the 2016 Australian Infrastructure Plan.

"We have seen welcome progress over the last five years, with Victoria and NSW taking significant steps towards creating a more sustainable, fair, and efficient road funding system through the introduction of a distance-based charge on Zero and Low Emissions Vehicles.

"The 2021 Plan makes clear Australian governments should build on these initiatives to see distance-based charging rolled out nationwide and across the fleet.

"The progress on road user charging shows reform is possible when you combine concerted advocacy, political leadership, and the right incentives for action, 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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