



Transport connectivity: funding for the future

FRIDAY, 8 APRIL 2016

Finding innovative ways to fund the essential transport infrastructure required to boost productivity and grow the national economy will be the topic of discussion at the next public hearing for the [inquiry into the role of transport connectivity on stimulating development and economic activity](#) in Brisbane on Friday.

Chair of the House of Representatives [Infrastructure, Transport and Cities Committee](#), Mr John Alexander MP, emphasised that improved transport connectivity had the capacity to significantly improve the economic development of the nation and social wellbeing of millions of Australians by revolutionising where people lived and worked.

“High Speed Rail, for example, has the capacity to transform our cities and regions by making it possible for people to commute over much longer distances. Living in Goulburn and working in Sydney will be a straightforward task, promoting development in one area and relieving congestion in the other,” Mr Alexander said.

“Greater connectivity will raise property values and we need to capture this value as hypothecating even part of this increased value to the cost of the infrastructure will go a long way to paying for it.”

In its submission, the Planning Institute of Australia highlights the importance of improved transport connectivity to Australia’s economic and social wellbeing, noting that ‘without significant reform, the compounded cost of every extra person on Australia’s often at-capacity transport networks will impact on the employment opportunities, productivity and social wellbeing of the next generation.’

Hearing details

Date: Friday, 8 April 2016

Time: 9:00 am–12:40 pm

Witnesses:

- Associate Professor Matthew Burke (Submission 26)
- Planning Institute of Australia (Submission 8)
- Council of Mayors of South East Queensland (Submission 33)
- Local Government Association of Queensland (Submission 24)
- Brisbane City Council (Submission 6)

Venue: Committee Room 3, Parliamentary Annexe, Alice Street, Brisbane

The public hearing will be webcast live at <http://www.aph.gov.au/live>

MEDIA CONTACTS

Chairman Mr John Alexander MP (House of Representatives Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities) (02) 9869 4288

Further background information on the inquiry, including the full [terms of reference](#) and [how to prepare a submission](#), can be obtained from the Committee’s website at www.aph.gov.au/itc or from the Secretariat on (02) 6277 2352 or itc.reps@aph.gov.au.