



# Media Release

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## WA transport and road safety must be Senate Election priorities

Western Australia's Senate Election is an opportunity for all parties to outline their commitment to priority transport projects to keep Western Australia on the move.

RAC General Manager Corporate Affairs, Will Golsby, said the Senate candidates must clearly outline their commitments and priorities so that Western Australians can make an informed decision at the ballot box.

"Federal focus and funding is needed to ensure Western Australia can make the most of its opportunities," Mr Golsby said.

"Road safety and congestion are two essential areas that need to be addressed through infrastructure funding, including public transport which is an essential part of the congestion solution."

It is predicted that an additional one million motorised vehicles will be on Western Australia's roads by 2020 and with congestion also estimated to cost the economy \$2.1 billion in the same year, the State is facing significant challenges.

Transformational public transport projects such as light rail are essential to help move large volumes of people at peak times, taking cars off the roads.

"An RAC report into Perth's public transport system last year highlighted that the system is under significant strain with 84% of survey respondents saying public transport had not improved in 18 months," Mr Golsby said.

"If constructed, the MAX light rail system would go some way to help alleviate the ongoing concerns commuters have with public transport and ease congestion on our roads."

Regionally, the Bunbury Outer Ring Road is a priority to address traffic hazards and congestion caused by the mix of heavy vehicle and local traffic. The road will cater for increasing volumes of commuter, tourist and commercial traffic coming to Bunbury and travelling to areas further south, particularly during peak holiday periods.

In 2013, regional WA accounted for 45 per cent of fatalities despite only 22 per cent of the population living there.

For more information on Western Australia's federal priorities visit the [RAC website](http://rac.com.au).

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