



Media Release

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Key projects remain uncommitted 12 months on from State Election

An RAC report card on the Western Australian Government's first year since its re-election has revealed mixed results for road safety, congestion and cost of motoring.

RAC General Manager Corporate Affairs, Will Golsby, said the RAC outlined its key election priorities in the lead-up to the State Election and was concerned some major initiatives were either at risk or in need of action.

"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," Mr Golsby said.

"Projects such as the proposed MAX light rail system, if constructed, would go some way to alleviate increasing congestion concerns."

RAC modelling has predicted an additional one million motorised vehicles will be on WA roads by 2020, the same year congestion is expected to cost the State \$2.1 billion annually.

Key projects the RAC's review identified as needing action include the construction of nine new overtaking lanes on Albany Highway between Kojonup and Albany (project deferred), building a new airport rail link including three new stations and 3,000 parking bays (project underfunded and delayed), the construction of the MAX light rail network (project deferred), and realigning Curtin Avenue, south of Marine Parade roundabout, Cottesloe (project deferred).

Projects assessed as 'at risk' include the construction of new bicycle lanes, the promotion of vehicle safety features at the point of sale and keeping the cost of motoring low and affordable.

"Transport received record investment in the 2013-14 State Budget following the election, however the mid-year review showed a different picture with a number of projects delayed," Mr Golsby said.

"The upcoming State Budget is an opportunity for the Government to show its commitment to essential projects that have not yet been secured to help meet the increasing demands faced by our road and public transport system as our population and economy continue to grow.

"Now is not the time to walk away and the Government should deliver on its commitments by finalising the detail, scheduling and funding of infrastructure in WA."

The report card has shown the Government to be 'on track' with a number of projects including the undertaking of a review into road safety governance, a new rescue helicopter for the South West, regional and metropolitan road upgrades, and public transport upgrades.

To read the RAC's full report card, visit the [RAC website](http://rac.com.au).

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