



# Media Release

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## Inflated fees unjustified

The RAC says the State Government's 2014/15 Budget has delivered a hit to motorists' hip pockets with motor vehicle registration, licencing and Compulsory Third Party Insurance costs expected to increase by around 12 per cent.

RAC General Manager Corporate Affairs, Will Golsby, said this is extremely disappointing and a clear deviation from the State Government's pre-election commitment that any increases to the cost of motoring would be kept at or below the cost of inflation.

"The State Budget papers outline an increase in annual revenue from motor vehicle licence fees from \$680 million in 2013/14, to \$788 million in 2014/15, and rising to \$923 million in 2017/18."

The budget also delivers a double blow for Western Australians following the recent deferral of major public transport infrastructure projects, with a four per cent increase in public transport fares this year.

"Commuters to the city will also be among those most affected with a \$365 increase in the Perth parking Levy over two years. This has again increased despite the Perth Parking Account having an estimated \$48 million already sitting there in unspent funds.

"The Budget also forecasts that around \$73 million will be left unspent in the Road Trauma Trust Account at the end of the next financial year. This is funding that should be flowing sensibly to important road safety initiatives capable of saving lives in Western Australia each year. It is important that this money does not sit idle in the account, like it has this year.

"There is also no change to the decision to cap the level of road funding provided to local government, despite the Auditor General in 2009 identifying an \$800 million road maintenance backlog across the State."

With strong population growth set to continue, the 2014/15 State Budget has scaled back Western Australia's ability to meet the increasing demands being placed on our road and transport networks.

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