



Media Release

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Land use response key to future of Airport Rail Link

The RAC has welcomed the release of details for the State Government's Airport Rail Link, and is now calling on the government to ensure there are robust land use plans in place for the area surrounding the proposed stations and wider catchment.

RAC General Manager Corporate Affairs, Will Golsby, said the RAC continues to push for expansion of the City's public transport network and has previously identified MAX Light Rail and the Airport Rail Link as key projects needed to help Western Australia deal with the State's rapid population growth.

"Our focus is on delivering a safer, better, smarter and more integrated transport system so our members can move easily around our city, because our State's future depends on it," Mr Golsby said.

"The RAC wants to ensure plans are in place for the new Airport Rail Link, including those that give consideration to the development and use of the land around the proposed stations and wider catchments."

By 2031 Perth's public transport system will be required to carry more than twice as many people as it currently does and it is estimated that at least 3.9 million, or a maximum of 5.4 million people, could call Perth home by 2050.

"Our road network will always be an essential part of how Western Australians move around our State. However, as the financial and social cost of congestion continues to increase, more people need the flexibility of public transport to move around our city."

Last year a report into Perth's public transport system highlighted that the network is already under significant strain, with 84% of survey respondents saying public transport had not improved in almost 18 months.

"MAX Light Rail will also be critical for the future of Perth, and given the long lead-in and delivery time the decisions the Government makes now about this project are vital.

"This is why the RAC wants to see the construction details for the MAX Light Rail project confirmed and funding brought back into the forward estimates."

The RAC also calls on the Government to release the Moving People Network Plan and Public Transport Plan, which have remained in draft format since 2011, despite new announcements being made on strategic transport projects.

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