



# Media Release

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## Thornlie rail line extension a priority

RAC says the Australian Government should invest \$340 million towards the Thornlie rail line extension to provide a real solution to the transport challenges facing Perth.

RAC General Manager Corporate Affairs Will Golsby says the [RAC Federal Priorities for Western Australia](#) provided the opportunity to invest and deliver safer and more efficient roads, and a connected and reliable public transport system.

“Western Australia is facing a congestion crisis, with Perth on its way to become the most congested capital in the country,” said Mr Golsby.

“Infrastructure Australia has predicted that in a mere 15 years’ time, seven out of the 10 most congested roads in the country will be in Perth, and congestion will cost more than \$16 billion a year by 2031.

“By 2031, Perth’s public transport system will also be required to carry more than twice as many people as it does now.”

The extension of the Thornlie passenger rail line will offer a viable and highly attractive public transport option to commuters currently competing with freight and commercial transport along Roe Highway.

The *2015 Australian Infrastructure Audit* also predicts that the Mandurah train line will reach or exceed “crush capacity” by 2031.

The Thornlie rail line extension is one of RAC’s five key Federal infrastructure priorities which will provide real solutions to the transport challenges facing WA.

The project development work for the extension of the Thornlie passenger rail line is well advanced, with preliminary railway alignments and designs completed.

“However, despite its high priority this critical connection remains unfunded.”

RAC is encouraging WA Federal Members of Parliament to use the [RAC Federal Priorities for Western Australia](#) to advocate for a fairer share of infrastructure funding for WA.

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