

Media Release



Monday 9 November 2015

RAC & CCI WA release business congestion survey results

- **87% of Perth businesses experience lost productivity due to congestion.**
- **61% are not confident that the Government has adequate plans in place to tackle congestion.**
- **Businesses say they need new roads, new road network technology, and changes to how roadworks are managed.**

Traffic congestion is adversely impacting business in Perth, according to the results of the third RAC BusinessWise and Chamber of Commerce and Industry Business Congestion Survey.

RAC Group Chief Executive Officer Terry Agnew said the latest survey revealed that traffic congestion continues to take its toll on people and businesses in and around Perth.

“Loss of productivity is the number one consequence of congestion, with 87% of businesses saying congestion has contributed directly to lost productivity, up from 78% in 2013,” Mr Agnew said.

“Increased fuel consumption, vehicle running costs and time spent on roads were also cited as major issues.

“And alarmingly, 35% of businesses said they had lost work, accounts or customers due to problems related to traffic congestion.

“Perth is on its way to become the most congested capital in the country. Infrastructure Australia has predicted that in a mere 15 years’ time, seven of the 10 most congested roads in the country will be in Perth.

“Without change, congestion is estimated to cost our State \$16 billion a year in lost productivity by 2031.”

CCI Chief Executive Officer Deidre Willmott said a long commute combined with congestion impacted the productivity of our city and its contribution to the economy.

“WA needs an efficient transport network to be a world-leading place to live and do business. The State Government should consider alternative funding arrangements including public-private partnerships to meet our growing requirements,” Ms Willmott said.

“Perth is a wonderful city to live and work, so we don’t want people spending their valuable time stuck in traffic.”

Perth businesses indicated that their top three priorities to help manage congestion should be more money spent to expand existing or build new roads; the introduction of new intelligent technology to manage the existing road network; and changes to how road works are managed.

However, 61% of businesses stated that they are not at all confident that State and Federal Governments have adequate plans in place to tackle congestion.

The survey results reaffirm the need for a long term infrastructure plan to prioritise and coordinate projects and provide certainty for businesses.

The RAC BusinessWise and CCI Congestion Survey surveyed more than 250 small to medium sized business in Perth.

The full survey results report can be found online – [RAC BusinessWise CCI Congestion Survey 2015](#).

Media Contacts

RAC: Kirsty Petrides 0401 703 719

CCI WA: Byron Vale 0468 988 911