

MEDIA RELEASE

CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS SECTOR READY FOR QLD INFRASTRUCTURE SPEND

December 1, 2020

Today's Queensland State Budget represents a key milestone for the State in its economic recovery and will be important for jobs and confidence in the heavy construction materials industry, according to the peak body representing the sector, Cement Concrete & Aggregates Australia (CCAA).

According to Ken Slattery, CEO of CCAA "The \$56 billion capital works and infrastructure investment over 4 years announced today is a vote of confidence in the sector which has shown its ability to operate safely and keep Queensland and Australia going during the COVID-19 pandemic."

"The Government's Budget Papers remind Queenslanders that there are still significant international headwinds impacting on the health of the economy, which means a focus on construction and infrastructure investment is a prudent economic strategy for the Government to adopt going forward" Mr Slattery said.

According to Aaron Johnstone, QLD State Director of CCAA "The infrastructure commitments in the Queensland Budget will reassure and provide more certainty for our sector's business owners and workers who supply the materials for the State, including thousands of concrete batchers, truck drivers and heavy machinery operators, contractors, equipment suppliers, plant and site managers, product technicians and all their support teams."

Mr Johnstone also said "It's important for Government to continue to work closely with the industry to ensure a timely and sustained cost-effective delivery of its four year program, especially to ensure the efficient supply of cement, concrete, stone and sand into the future."

"For example, when you consider just one kilometre of a two-lane highway requires some 14,000 tonnes of sand and gravel (or 400 truckloads), it is clear that careful planning is needed." Mr Johnstone said.

"As set out in our pre-election policy agenda [Supporting Queensland in Uncertain Times](#), we strongly urge a cohesive policy approach on construction materials, such as measures to protect quarries from incompatible development, support for the approval of new sites, and other measures to improve efficiency and lower business costs." Mr Johnstone said.

The following announcements are particularly supported:

- \$6.3 billion investment in transport infrastructure in 2020/21 and more than \$22 billion in projects in 2021/22 and beyond.
- \$526 million in social housing in 2020/21.
- \$265 million in 2020/21 to begin delivery of seven new satellite hospitals in Redlands, Brisbane's southside, Pine Rivers, the Gold Coast, Ipswich, Caboolture and Bribie Island.
- A \$654 million expansion of the Southern Queensland Correctional Precinct near Gatton, including \$110.2 million in 2020/21 with building on the expansion expected to start early in 2021.

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Pre-election Policy Statement can be found on the [CCAA website](#)