

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **CCAA WELCOMES TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO EXPEDITE \$3.7BN INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM**

May 15, 2020

Cement, Concrete & Aggregates Australia (CCAA), which represents the heavy construction materials industry, has welcomed a decision by Tasmanian Government today to review the State's \$3.7 billion infrastructure program and identify projects for fast-tracking in order to provide an immediate injection into the economy and to create jobs.

The Chief Executive Officer of CCAA, Ken Slattery, said the decision by Premier Peter Gutwien, recognises the leading role construction will play in re-building Tasmania as it recovers from the economic lockdown associated with COVID 19.

Mr Slattery said the Government's decision followed the recent release by CCAA of Tasmanian policy priorities, including a call for the State Government to review and if possible, fast track spending on crucial infrastructure projects.

"The battle against this terrible virus has and continues to be costly, with 100 Australians having lost their lives, large parts of the economy placed in lockdown, and hundreds of thousands of jobs having been lost," he said.

"As we start to reopen our economy, the Australian construction sector will play a leading role as we recover from the economic and social impacts of the pandemic.

Brian Hauser, the CCAA State Director, Tasmania, said: "We welcome the Tasmanian Government's decision to review its spending on infrastructure.

"Expediting vital infrastructure projects, such as much needed affordable houses, maintenance on schools and Government buildings, regional roads, bridges and dams, will help to revitalise the local economy and create new jobs.

"Cement, concrete, stone and sand are the critical materials that enable Tasmania's construction industry, which employs 19,500 workers and contributes 57.4 per cent of Tasmania's taxation revenue base."

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