

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **CCA WELCOMES QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY STRATEGY TO FAST TRACK PROJECTS AND CREATE JOBS**

May 19, 2020

The peak body representing the heavy construction materials industry, Cement, Concrete & Aggregates Australia (CCA), today welcomed the Queensland Government's announcement of its new Economic Recovery Strategy, which is designed to fast-track major infrastructure projects and create jobs post the COVID 19 pandemic.

The Chief Executive Officer of CCA, Ken Slattery, said the announcement by Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk recognised the important role construction would play in helping to revive the Queensland economy, which has been impacted significantly by moves to tackle the spread of the virus.

Mr Slattery said CCA was pleased the Government had committed to maintaining infrastructure investment at more than \$50 billion over the next four years, while also announcing a \$400 million Accelerated Works Program to deliver new road, bridge, and pavement sealing works across the State.

"As a major employer nationally, the Australian construction sector will play a leading role as we recover from the economic and social impacts of the pandemic," he said. "In Queensland, this means an emphasis on fast tracking major projects that will contribute to lifting economic confidence in the State – and help create much-needed jobs."

Aaron Johnstone, the CCA State Director, Queensland, said he welcomed the Government's announcement, which followed representations made by CCA and its members as part of a set of State priorities post COVID 19.

He said more than 6,000 people were directly employed in the construction materials industry represented by CCA alone, with a total of about 230,000 employed in the wider construction sector.

"We welcome the Government's decision to accelerate some of its funding for major projects, and its commitment to maintain its infrastructure investment over the next four years, despite the economic impacts of the pandemic," Mr Johnstone said.

"We are also pleased the Government has agreed to publish a COVID-19 Fiscal and Economic Review (C19-FER) in September this year, providing further certainty to our industry and to business generally."

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