

The Western Australian economy... time to take the brakes off.

what they say.....

Australian Labor Party



‘Western Australians deserve a fair return from WA’s expanding economy and multi-billion dollar resource developments.’

– Simon Mead, State Secretary, WA Labor Party.

what they mean.....

Take the Brakes Off: The ALP only gave one direct answer to the six questions in the survey. The ALP answered ‘yes’ to the request for support for the Gateway WA project.

STRENGTHS

The ALP has committed up to \$480million to the Gateway WA project to ease congestion around Perth airport.

The ALP also committed to provide 80% of the additional cost to complete the upgrade of the Great Eastern Highway from Orrong Road to Tonkin Highway.

WEAKNESSES

The Gateway WA commitment is funded by the infrastructure fund to be established using revenue from the new mining tax.

A commitment needs to be made that this money will not substitute funding from WA’s share of general road spending.

RAC COMMENT

The Gateway WA project is a major plus for the ALP but the failure to commit to a larger funding share for WA places in doubt the ability of a re-elected Labor government to deliver the projects our growing economy and population needs.

what they say.....

Liberal Party



‘The Coalition acknowledges that more needs to be done in Western Australia.... As the Coalition rebuilds the Federal budget it will address these projects as a priority.’

– Ben Morton, State Director, WA Liberal Party.

what they mean.....

Take the Brakes Off: The Liberal Party did not provide direct responses to any of the six questions in the survey.

STRENGTHS

The Liberal Party has committed funds to several smaller projects including the grade separation of the intersection of Reid Highway and Mirrabooka Drive and for a project to build an on-ramp to the Kwinana Freeway from Manning Road. The Liberal Party says the Gateway WA project will be a priority as it ‘rebuilds the economy.’

WEAKNESSES

There are no specific commitments to major road projects in Western Australia.

RAC COMMENT

While the Liberal Party acknowledges the importance of projects like Gateway WA, the lack of specific funding commitments raises significant doubts that these projects will take priority over projects in the eastern States. The failure to commit to a larger funding share for WA places in doubt the ability of a Coalition government to deliver the projects our growing economy and population needs.



RAC members are happier

what they say.....

Nationals WA



‘The Nationals WA are calling for a re-allocation of money being funnelled into areas in the Eastern States and asking that Western Australia have a fairer share of funding from the Commonwealth.’

– J Boydell, Policy Director, Nationals WA

what they mean.....

Take the Brakes Off: The National Party did not provide direct responses to any of the six questions in the survey.

STRENGTHS

Calls for greater road spending in the Pilbara, Albany and Kalgoorlie regions. Commitment to the Commonwealth matching the current Royalties for Regions funding provided by the State for infrastructure and services in the region.

WEAKNESSES

No specific commitments to major road projects in WA. There is also uncertainty on whether greater funding for the regions would be offset by a loss of funding to metropolitan projects leading to no net increase in WA's share of Federal funding.

RAC COMMENT

The commitment to a Royalties for Regions concept only references a broad investment in 'infrastructure and services' for the regions with no specific commitments to major road or road safety projects. Uncertainty exists on how the commitment would be delivered through a Coalition government.

what they say.....

Greens WA



No response received at time of publication. A WA Greens spokesperson stated the RAC survey had not been received.

STRENGTHS

The Greens were the only party to issue a detailed road safety policy which committed to a range of programs to reduce road trauma across Australia.

At a WA level, the Greens continue to champion a light rail proposal for Perth and surrounding suburbs and are the only party to commit to a major public transport infrastructure project.

WEAKNESSES

No commitments to major road projects in WA. While the road safety policy is well argued, the funding details are minimal.

The Perth light rail project is worthy of further debate but no funding source is identified for the price tag of \$3.7billion for Stages 1 and 2.

RAC COMMENT

The entry of the Greens to the road safety debate has highlighted the lack of a coordinated road safety policy from either of the major parties.

The strong emphasis on the Perth light rail proposal ignores the road infrastructure investments needed to continue to grow our economy.



RAC members are happier

We asked the major parties six simple questions

1. Does your party support the lifting of Western Australia's share of Federal land transport funding to 15 per cent?
2. Does your party commit to funding half the cost of the Gateway WA project to fix roads around the proposed joint domestic-international terminal at Perth airport?
3. Does your party commit to contributing \$50million p.a. matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by the State government for a Regional Roads Rescue program?
4. Does your party commit to including the Brand Highway – North West Coast Highway link to the national highway network?
5. Does your party commit to contributing funding to the Reid Highway upgrade?
6. Does your party commit to increased funding to complete upgrades of the Great Northern and Great Eastern Highways?

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