Building METRONET and our transport future



The McGowan Government is delivering landmark transport infrastructure right across Western Australia, creating an essential pipeline of work, local jobs and business opportunities – not to mention changing the way we get around our State.

From transformational public transport projects to essential port upgrades, building METRONET and our transport future strengthens and diversifies our State economy, while reducing the time stuck in traffic.

At a glance

The 2022-23 Budget contains substantial investments towards WA's economic future across all forms of transport.

This State Budget contains a multi-billion dollar transport investment. Since the last State Budget, more than 32 projects have been completed, which supported almost 3,400 jobs and apprenticeships for Western Australians.

From walking and cycling, to major international exports, the McGowan Labor Government's investment in transport continues to support WA's local workers and businesses, as well as our State's strong economic future, with:

- a record \$6 billion investment across METRONET, including two new projects;
- \$9 billion for major road projects and upgrades across WA;
- \$1.7 billion allocated to port projects; and
- a record \$347 million investment in pedestrian and cycling infrastructure.

METRONET transforming Perth and Peel

With a record \$6 billion allocated over the next four years across 13 projects, many at peak construction levels, METRONET is in full swing.

Since the opening of the Bellevue Railcar Facility, another two METRONET projects have been completed with passengers now parking at the Mandurah Station Multi-Storey Car Park and all road and civic upgrade works completed as part of the Denny Avenue Level Crossing Removal Project.

Milestones for the METRONET program in 2022-23 will include:

- opening of the Forrestfield-Airport Link, including new stations at the Airport, Redcliffe and High Wycombe;
- opening of Lakelands Station in mid-2023;
- peak construction activities across the Morley-Ellenbrook Line, Thornlie-Cockburn Link, Yanchep Rail Extension and Bayswater Station projects;
- commencement of major construction on the Midland Station, Byford Rail Extension, Victoria Park-Canning Level Crossing Removal, Greenwood Station Multi Storey Car Park projects and the Public Transport Operations Control Centre;
- the 'WA-made' C-series train rolling out of the Bellevue Railcar Manufacturing and Assembly Facility for testing on the network;
- awarding the contract for the Train Control and Signalling project; and

commencement of detailed planning for the Morrison Road Level Crossing Removal.

The 2022-23 Budget includes \$1 billion in additional State and Commonwealth funding for METRONET projects, including:

- further investment in the Train Control and Signalling project, which forms part of the High Capacity Signalling program of works and is currently out to tender. This work will increase the rail network's capacity, improve safety, and allow trains to operate more efficiently;
- relocating the Canning Bridge Bus Interchange from Canning Highway to an elevated platform above the freeway and train station, to improve safety for commuters and reduce traffic congestion and travel times;
- planning for the Morrison Road level crossing removal on the Midland line, to improve safety and traffic congestion in the area; and
- further investment in the Thornlie-Cockburn Link and Yanchep Rail Extension projects to address the impacts of cost escalation and supply chain constraints impacting the construction market.

Upgrading our roads

The McGowan Government has a strong track record of investment in our roads since coming to Government, with more than \$6.5 billion in major road projects delivered since 2017-18.

This Budget includes a further \$9 billion in road projects and upgrades, boosting local jobs and busting congestion.

The Budget also includes funding allocated by the Commonwealth and State Governments for a number of new projects, including:

- \$500 million to seal Tanami Road to the WA border;
- \$290 million for Thomas Road South Western Highway to Tonkin Highway Dual Carriageway;
- \$250 million to deliver Stages 1 and 2 of the Pinjarra Heavy Haulage Deviation;
- \$120 million for Moorine Rock to Mount Holland road upgrades to support the Covalent lithium mine;
- \$100 million for Tonkin Highway Corridor Upgrades North Ellenbrook Interchange;
- \$80 million for the Nicholson Road and Garden Street Grade Separation;
- \$50 million Great Northern Highway Newman to Port Hedland overtaking lanes;
- \$36 million towards the Secondary Freight Roads in Mid West and Great Southern regions;
- \$35 million for the East Perth Footbridge;
- \$20 million for a new intersection and road connection at Forrest Highway and Vittoria Road in Picton; and
- \$10 million Chidlow-York Road and Forrest Street intersection.

The 2022-23 Budget also includes funding to continue delivering projects currently underway, including:

- Tonkin Highway upgrade projects, including the Tonkin Gap project;
- Mitchell Freeway Extension (Hester Avenue to Romeo Road);
- Mitchell Freeway widening southbound from Hodges Drive to Hepburn Avenue;
- Transforming (SMART) Freeways Mitchell Freeway corridor;
- Stephenson Avenue extension:
- Queen Victoria Street Swan River Crossings (Fremantle Road and Rail Bridge);
- Leach Highway and Welshpool Road Grade Separated Interchange;
- Bunbury Outer Ring Road Stages 2 and 3;
- Port Hedland Airport deviation project;
- sealing of the remaining lengths of Outback Way, which will provide a third sealed route across Australia;
- Great Eastern Highway upgrades at Coates Gully between Walgoolan to Southern Cross and between Ghooli to Benari;
- Albany Ring Road;

- Marble Bar Road upgrades; and
- Bussell Highway Duplication.

Road safety

The McGowan Labor Government is committed to delivering safer roads, no matter where you live.

The jointly funded State-Commonwealth Regional Road Safety Program will receive a further \$159 million this Budget, bringing the total investment to date to \$828 million - with around 9,000 kilometres of regional roads to be upgraded by mid-2023.

Funding has been allocated to the Safer Roads and Bridges program with \$146 million in regional WA, and \$16.2 million within Perth and Peel.

The Resealing program will see about \$200 million allocated to regional WA, and \$98 million to Perth and

More than \$118 million from the Road Trauma Trust Account will be spent on a variety of road safety programs to continue efforts to reduce the senseless loss of life on our roads.

Cycling

The 2022-23 State Budget includes investment of:

- \$47 million to further expand local bicycle infrastructure through the Western Australian Bicycle Network Grants Program and other projects;
- \$62 million to continue to the Principal Shared Path Expansion Program;
- \$46 million to deliver riding and walking facilities as part of major infrastructure projects including the Swan River Crossing Project, Mitchell Freeway projects (Hodges to Hepburn, Cedric to Vincent and Stephenson Avenue) and Tonkin Highway Extension;
- \$35 million to deliver a pedestrian and cycling bridge in East Perth; and
- \$157 million through the Perth City Deal to deliver transformational active transport projects, including the Causeway Pedestrian and Cyclist Bridge.

Ports and our trade economy

Western Australia is a trading economy, which is why the McGowan Labor Government is committed to investing in our ports, right across our state. Investment in port infrastructure helps dive greater trade, jobs and diversification across our economy.

The 2022-23 State Budget includes \$1.7 billion in funding including:

- \$332 million towards additional capacity at Geraldton Port;
- \$78 million towards Lumsden Point at the Port of Port Hedland;
- \$52 million for a dedicated Marine Services Hub in Broome, including \$7 million for base infrastructure for a chemical processing and storage facility; and
- \$10.7 million for infrastructure and equipment at Esperance and Bunbury Ports.

In addition, the McGowan Government has allocated \$499 million towards the transformational Westport project.

Supporting local economies

The McGowan Government has announced that road maintenance staff will return in-house to Main Roads, a move that will secure 660 permanent jobs, 490 of which will be in regional WA.

Four new depots and offices will be established in regional WA, including Manjimup, Esperance, Karratha and Broome – as well upgrades to existing depots around the State. The decision will help support ongoing training and skilled workforces in our regions, supporting regional towns as well as Aboriginal employment outcomes.