

media release



MASTERS OF OUR INDUSTRY

Master Builders Association of Victoria
ABN: 38 004 255 654

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State Budget secures 18,000 construction jobs and billions in investment

Unprecedented funding levels for major construction projects form the heart of the *2014-15 State Budget* and have been supported today by Master Builders.

“The Napthine Government has today unveiled an ambitious infrastructure agenda that will stimulate investment and drive new jobs into Victoria’s construction industry,” said Chief Executive Officer Radley de Silva.

“Today represents a big win for the construction sector, providing a pipeline of major projects that will secure 18,000 jobs.

“It is vital we build the infrastructure our growing state needs and enshrine Melbourne’s place as the world’s most world liveable city.

“Proceeds from years of prudent financial management can now be reinvested into the infrastructure projects our community needs and deserves.”

The State Budget paves the way for up to \$27 billion for new infrastructure projects, including:

- The Melbourne Metro Rail Project, including a rail link to Melbourne Airport, worth up to \$11 billion;
- Upgrades to the Cranbourne and Pakenham rail lines, featuring four level crossing upgrades, at a cost of up to \$2.5 billion;
- The next stage of works for the East West Link second stage between CityLink and the Western Ring Road, expected to cost up to \$10 billion;
- More lanes along the CityLink-Tullamarine corridor, worth \$850 million;
- New schools to be constructed in Melbourne’s growth areas, worth \$500 million; and
- Redeveloping the Latrobe Regional Hospital at a cost of \$73 million.

“Our industry is excited to build these city-shaping major projects, which will provide long-term solutions for Victorians battling chaotic congestion or facing overcrowded trains,” said Mr de Silva.

“Master Builders has been calling for the Victorian Government to address our state’s infrastructure backlog and it’s fantastic to see them stepping up to the plate to tackle this issue.”

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