

MEDIA RELEASE

New Freight Task Report Highlights Need for Action

A new government report released today showing Australia's freight task will increase by 26 per cent over the next decade underscores why all levels of government need to prioritise freight in their investment and policy decisions.

"The [Who Moves What Where report](#), released today by the National Transport Commission, is a timely reminder of the need for governments to prioritise supply chain planning and reforms to meet Australia's rising freight task," said Michael Kilgariff, ALC Managing Director.

"While this report reinforces what we already know – that Australia's freight task is big and is growing – it also highlights the need for action.

"In its [Infrastructure Audit](#), Infrastructure Australia predicted that the cost of congestion on urban roads could rise to more than \$50 billion each year by 2031 and that demand for many key urban road and rail corridors is projected to significantly exceed current capacity by 2031.

"These two reports underscore the need for a timely government response to Infrastructure Australia's 15-year [Australian Infrastructure Plan](#) to chart a long term plan to deal with Australia's supply chain challenges and opportunities.

"ALC members will take this message to Canberra next week with a clear message to all sides of politics on the need to commission a National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy, as recommended by Infrastructure Australia in its 15-year plan.

"ALC strongly supported this strategy in our election priorities document [Getting the Supply Chain Right](#)' and we encourage the Government, Opposition and all cross-benchers to embrace this important piece of work," he said.

Mr Kilgariff said that while the report confirms the rate of freight growth to 2026 will be slower than the last ten years, it should be viewed in comparison with the expected rate of growth in passenger transport, which is around 19 percent.

"In light of these figures, ALC encourages governments at all levels to ensure they give equal consideration to the movement of freight as they do the movement of people, particularly in our capital cities," he concluded.

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