

MEDIA RELEASE

Budget Announcement Will Unlock Benefits of Intermodals

The [Australian Logistics Council](#) (ALC) says today's [confirmation](#) by the Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister that tomorrow's Federal Budget will commit \$400 million to duplicate the freight rail line from Port Botany to Enfield is a vital recognition of the central role intermodal terminals will play in modernising our urban supply chains.

Today's announcement confirmed that the project would be undertaken by the [Australian Rail Track Corporation](#) (ARTC), and will incorporate a passing loop at Cabramatta, helping to alleviate congestive pressures on the Sydney freight rail network.

"ALC has long called for the duplication of the freight rail line at Port Botany, most recently in our [2018-19 Commonwealth Budget Submission](#). We have long held the view that promoting far greater use of intermodal terminals will be central to meeting Australia's growing freight task," said ALC Managing Director, Michael Kilgariff.

"As discussions at [ALC Forum 2018](#) highlighted, boosting the use of short-haul rail from ports to intermodal terminals forms an essential part of efforts to enhance supply chain efficiency and safety."

"That was why supporting the growth of intermodal terminals was such a focus in [Freight Doesn't Vote](#), ALC's major submission to the [Inquiry Into National Freight and Supply Chain Priorities](#)."

"Currently, around 444,000 TEU per year moves to and from Port Botany by rail, and this continues to grow. Duplicating the freight rail line at Port Botany will allow NSW Ports to realise its objective of moving 3 million TEU annually by rail over the long term."

"This sort of transformation will be essential if we are to improve urban amenity, reduce road congestion, decrease queuing times at ports and place downward pressure on consumer prices," Mr Kilgariff said.

"In many respects, NSW is currently leading the nation in the development and effective use of intermodal terminals in its urban freight network. Construction of Qube's Moorebank Intermodal Terminal is now well underway, which will complement other key intermodal facilities including the DP World Intermodal Terminal at Port Botany, LINX Cargo Care Group's Enfield Intermodal Terminal and Pacific National's facility at Chullora."

"Duplicating the freight rail line at Port Botany and constructing a passing loop at Cabramatta will help to alleviate congestion at the port, on urban roads and on the NSW freight rail network."

"Promoting these types of efficiencies in Australia's largest city will have flow-on impact on the national supply chain, so this \$400 million investment is most welcome," he concluded.

Monday, 7 May 2018

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