

Media Release

Builders welcome Infrastructure WA

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The Master Builders Association of Western Australia has applauded the McGowan Government's move to improve long term planning for major facilities across the state.

Infrastructure WA legislation will be introduced to Parliament this week and Master Builders Executive Director John Gelavis said he looked forward to greater collaboration between the Government, community and construction industry.

"The new authority will provide better forward planning for major projects, prioritising them based on merit and best outcome for the taxpayer and smoothing the path of construction to avoid expensive delays and cancellations." he said.

"Putting a tender together for large infrastructure and capital works projects like hospitals, highways, railways or bridges is costly for construction companies and consumes significant time and effort. If a project is suddenly scrapped, or deferred indefinitely, those costs are a burden on industry.

"Infrastructure WA will provide the necessary certainty that the job is a priority and will go ahead in the medium to long term plan, which allows the construction industry to be proactive in getting prepared.

"This also allows industry to plan ahead on the jobs and skills which will be required on infrastructure projects, meaning industry can prepare the skills base for these projects in conjunction with the Department of Training and Workforce Development.

"This is a tremendous outcome for all stakeholders, with many upsides.

"The establishment of Infrastructure WA is a confidence boost for the construction industry at a time when it is sorely needed due to the economic downturn.

"Master Builders are also pleased by the appointment of John Langoulant, who is well regarded in both the public and private sectors, as the Infrastructure WA chair-designate."

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