

Our community relies on the road network to get to the places that matter.

As a global city, Sydney's transport demands continue to grow, underpinned by population growing from 4.6 million to 6 million people over the next 20 years. There are currently 16 million trips undertaken by Sydneysiders on an average weekday and 15 million day trips at the weekend. During the peak periods this leads to increased pressure on the road network and on public transport.

In particular, the weekend travel demands continue to increase and can approach weekday peak conditions in certain parts of the city. Almost 70 percent of weekday trips are undertaken by car with the remainder by public transport, cycling and walking. On top of this, car ownership continues to grow.

Congestion costs Sydney around \$5 billion each year – or nearly \$1,100 per person. With congestion increasing and travel speeds slowing, our roads need to perform better for motorists and other road users.

The NSW Government's state plan, *NSW 2021* commits to improving travel times for both public transport and the road network. For the road network, the target is to improve the travel times on 100 major roads during the morning and evening peak travel periods.

The NSW Government is investing record amounts to build and maintain essential road infrastructure with \$5.1 billion allocated in the 2013-2014 State Budget.

But we know building new roads is not enough to ensure the network performs.

Under the *Long Term Transport Master Plan*, the NSW Government is progressing a congestion action plan that:

- Deploys targeted investment at congestion pinch points;
- Invests in managed motorway technology to make the network more demand responsive; and
- Enhances traveller information to help drivers avoid congested roads.

The Pinch Point Program is also being rolled out, targeting traffic improvements at key intersections across the road network, in addition to a number of arterial road upgrades proposed over coming years.

The NSW Government has also committed to major expansions of the public transport network including the North and South West Rail Lines, the Inner West Light Rail extension, the City to South East Light Rail Project, and major road expansions including WestConnex covering the M4, M5 and connecting corridor.

Clearways and other congestion management measures will play an increasingly important role through the use of the entire road space for longer periods of the day, on weekends, and potentially on a broader number of major road segments.