



Mining and energy sector calls for investment into roads.

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IQ-RAP Partners and key bodies are advocating for the development of infrastructure to support globally competitive industries and provide access to growing international markets.

Investment into inland Queensland roads has the capacity to stimulate and enhance economic productivity, reduce capital costs for businesses, build competitive advantages, and deliver a multiplier effect throughout the economy, generating lasting economic and social benefits.

Queensland Resources Council Chief Executive Ian Macfarlane said the minerals and energy sector contributed approximately \$34 billion in direct spending to the Queensland economy in 2018/19.

“Resources and agriculture are the cornerstone industries of Queensland’s economic recovery and both benefit from a safe and reliable road network,” Mr Macfarlane said.

“Our mining and energy companies rely on the road network for the delivery of oversized equipment that can only travel by road as well as multiple services that are delivered at mine sites by regional suppliers. A better road network is crucial for our industry’s ability to operate efficiently and safely and to increase opportunities for these local suppliers”, said Mr Macfarlane.

Mining and energy companies critically rely on the road network for the delivery of oversized equipment that can only travel by road and services that are delivered at mine sites by regional suppliers. We need to build the infrastructure required to mine and transport our natural resources to global markets.

“Road upgrades can reduce commercial costs for operators in Australia's critical minerals sector. These improvements will reduce road closures during wet seasons, support more productive heavy vehicle access and usage, and assist access to key infrastructure, such as ports,” said Greg Campbell, Mayor of Cloncurry Shire Council and RDA Townsville and North West Queensland committee member.

IQ-RAP Partners have requested commitments from each Party to endorse the Inland Queensland Road Network Strategy, invest \$200m into currently unfunded priorities across the 28 local government areas, and progress detailed planning for the identified priorities.

Regional Development Australia Townsville and North West Queensland (RDA) has provided secretariat and project management to IQ-RAP since 2013. The project covers 70% of Queensland across 28 local government areas. Partners include 28 local governments, five Regional Development Australia committees and RACQ.

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