

INVESTING IN MORE PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND HIGH SPEED RAIL

Our plan to make transport healthy and affordable for all

For years the Liberal Government has failed to plan ahead and meet the demands of our growing cities and regions.

Rather than investing in public transport, connecting our major cities and making active transport safe and accessible, our city and transport options are being decided by corporations.

The Greens will invest in public and active transport as well as high speed rail, and ensure that we choose transport options that will contribute to reducing our carbon emissions.

This will reduce traffic, get us where we want to go faster, cost us less, and clean up the air we breathe.

THE GREENS WILL:

- ▲ Put an **extra \$2.5 billion into rail and bus services** and **\$500 million into** making cycling and walking safe and accessible per year
- ▲ Transform transport by supporting **the electrification of bus and rail networks** across Australia
- ▲ **Build high speed rail from Melbourne to Brisbane**
- ▲ **Invest in getting freight onto rail and cleaning up our truck fleets**

PAYING FOR OUR PLAN

By making billionaires and big corporations pay their fair share of tax and winding back handouts to big polluters, we can build a better life for all of us.

1 in 3 big corporations pays no tax and many big corporations and billionaires send their profits offshore tax free.

The Greens will tax billionaires with a new 'billionaires tax', require big corporations making excessive profits to pay a 'corporate super-profits tax' and axe billions of dollars in handouts to the coal, oil and gas giants that are driving the climate crisis.

These measures have all been costed by the independent Parliamentary Budget Office.

When big corporations and billionaires pay their fair share, everyone can have the services they need for a better life.

AN EXTRA \$25 BILLION FOR RAIL AND BUS SERVICES

Our cities are clogged up and becoming impossible to move around, and our outer suburbs and regional towns are stuck without the connections that people need. People have no choice but to travel by car, leading to traffic gridlock, skyrocketing carbon pollution and poor health from polluted air.

A government that is serious about building the 21st century infrastructure for our cities and regions must put money on the table for public transport projects to give us the accessible, affordable, clean and connected cities and regions that people deserve.

Yet funding for roads still makes up more than 4 in every 5 dollars of federal government

transport investment¹ - this cannot continue. The Greens will introduce a dedicated public transport investment fund of \$25 billion over the next decade.

Investment of this scale is needed to restore Commonwealth infrastructure spending, and get critical public transport projects underway.

ELECTRIFY BUS AND RAIL NETWORKS

Turning our bus fleets and rail networks electric can make our public transport systems cleaner and greener. The Greens plan to electrify over 3,000 km of rail lines in five years, generating thousands of jobs, and make regional rail faster and cleaner. By providing incentives to state governments to buy electric buses, we can also

¹ Budget 2020-21, Budget Paper 3: Federal Financial Relations

rebuild our vehicle manufacturing industry here in Australia, while reducing diesel pollution and making our streets quieter and cleaner.

BUILD HIGH SPEED RAIL CONNECTING MELBOURNE, CANBERRA, SYDNEY AND BRISBANE

In 1981 the first model for high speed rail linking Australia's eastern mainland capital cities was proposed. We have waited long enough - it's now time to bring the east coast High Speed Rail project to life.

High speed rail between Australia's eastern mainland cities would be a transformative project that will link up regional cities with our capitals and will be central in the shift to a clean economy. Building high speed rail would provide a sustainable alternative to domestic flights between east coast major cities and regions.

Rather than leaving the project to private developers, the Greens will build this project in the public interest. Whether it be the NBN, Inland Rail or the purchase of Snowy Hydro, we now have the financing and equity models that prove the Federal Government can go it alone in funding large scale national infrastructure.

The Greens will set up the Australian High Speed Rail Authority and provide \$17.7 billion in funding to cover the first four years of expenses to finally get High Speed Rail moving.

\$500 MILLION PER YEAR TO MAKE CYCLING AND WALKING SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE

Feeling unsafe while riding is the biggest reason people don't cycle. Investment in bikes and walking infrastructure is more cost effective than building roads, and will give people the freedom to choose riding or walking as a safe, easy option and leave their car at home.

Yet, neither Labor nor the Coalition Government have any vision for investment in critical active transport infrastructure.

We cannot leave this to State and Local Governments alone. The current model leads to many areas missing out on critical infrastructure due to lack of funds and projects ending at Council borders.

The Greens will establish an Active Transport Fund worth \$5 billion over the next ten years to invest in cycling and walking infrastructure in Australia. This will include constructing and upgrading off-road paths and dedicated Copenhagen-style lanes.

By funding bike and walking infrastructure properly, our plan will reduce pollution, unclog our roads, and encourage physical activity that makes us all healthier and happier.