

EMERGING CRISES SUMMIT

Moving People Solutions
for a Growing Australia

> *Cities, Population, Climate Change and Energy*

July 6, 2011 > 9am-1pm > Main Committee Room, Parliament House, Canberra



AUSTRALASIAN
RAILWAY
ASSOCIATION



AUSTRALIAN
CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION



AUSTRALIAN LOCAL
GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



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Moving People Solutions for a Growing Australia

Overview

Australia faces the parallel emerging crises of congested cities, a growing and ageing population and the impacts this has on demand for essential services and living space, climate change and future energy challenges.

This Emerging Crises Summit is about policy options and solutions that can be provided through transport and how we move people today and in the future.

A broad range of groups have identified the need for Federal Government leadership to develop a strategic suite of policy and program initiatives to improve the way people travel as part of the solution to these challenges.

It is true to say we are seeing a historical commitment to how we move people from the current Government.

The recent release of the *Our Cities Our Future: National Urban Policy for a Productive, Sustainable and Liveable Future* by the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport the Hon Anthony Albanese MP has the potential to be the genesis of a long term policy framework for how we address transport in our cities.

On the other hand the release of the *Sustainable Australia – Sustainable Communities: Sustainable Population Strategy for Australia* by the Hon Tony Burke MP, Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities did not go far enough in answering the big question of population levels.

This reduces the value of the strategy in addressing the challenges of a growing and ageing population, climate change and energy security in the context of long term transport policy and the role of public and active transport in providing solutions for the future.

This Summit of like minded organisations challenges all political participants at a Federal level; the Australian Labor Party, Australian Greens, Coalition and Independents, to define the role of public and active transport in addressing these emerging crises.

Summit Program

- 09:00 Summit Introduction and Poll Findings**
Summit Chair
Michael Apps, Executive Director, Bus Industry Confederation
- 09:10 Key Note Address**
Cities, Congestion and the Economy
The Hon Bob Carr, Former Premier NSW
- 09:40 Media Conference**
The Hon Bob Carr, Former Premier NSW
Summit Panellists
- 10:00 Senator Scott Ludlam**
Transport Spokesperson, Australian Greens
- 10:30 Morning Tea**
- 11:00 TBC the Hon Tony Abbott MP**
Leader of the Opposition
- 11:30 Panel—Economy and the Environment**
Panel Facilitator Bryan Nye, CEO, Australasian Railway Association
Climate Change and Travel Choice
Don Henry, CEO, Australian Conservation Foundation
Energy Efficiency and Transport Choices
Mark McKenzie, Managing Director, Rare Consulting
Road Pricing: Ken Henry was Right
Professor David Hensher, Director Institute of Transport and Logistics Studies, University of Sydney
The Hon Bob Carr, Former Premier NSW
- 12:00 TBC the Hon Anthony Albanese MP**
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
- 12.30 Health, Access and Community**
Panel Facilitator Stephen Hodge, Government Relations Manager, Cycling Promotion Fund
Physical Activity and Health Benefits
Professor Adrian Bauman, Heart Foundation
Social Inclusion: Connecting people to community
Professor John Stanley, University of Sydney
The Forgotten Arm of Government
Felicity Ann Lewis, Deputy President, ALGA
The Hon Bob Carr, Former Premier NSW
- 1:00 Conclusion and Close**
Michael Apps, Executive Director, Bus Industry Confederation

Key Presentations

KEYNOTE: Cities Congestion and the Economy

The Hon Bob Carr, Former Premier NSW

Australia's cities are congested and costing the economy in loss of productivity, affecting the liveability of our cities.

Cities are the knowledge centres and drivers of our economy. Without Federal Government leadership and involvement in introducing policies to manage growing congestion and population, Australia could slowly grind to a halt and lose its reputation as one of the most liveable countries in the world.

A suite of policies for moving people is required from the Federal Government involving support and incentives for State and Local Governments to deliver liveable cities and regions for the future.

Climate Change and Travel Choice

Don Henry, CEO, Australian Conservation Foundation

Road transport contributes 87 cent of all transport related greenhouse emissions, with cars contributing almost two thirds. Climate change policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from cars must encourage travel behaviour change.

A change in the Federal Government's mix of transport infrastructure spending needs to occur. We must see greater investment in public transport infrastructure, conditionality applied to all transport infrastructure investment and assistance provided to State and Local Governments to improve the quality of the public transport, walking and cycling options.

Energy Efficiency and Transport Choices

Mark McKenzie, Managing Director, Rare Consulting

Future energy sources for transport require a range of options to be made available to meet the various transport needs of individuals and the economy.

This includes the provision of choices to individuals in their future mobility, vehicle and type of fuel.

A comprehensive approach to energy efficiency is required that provides alternatives to the car, accessible alternative fuel for cars and sends the right price signals to deliver efficiency gains and emissions reductions.

Road Pricing: Ken Henry is Right

Professor David Hensher, Director Institute of Transport and Logistics Studies, University of Sydney

The Henry Review of Taxation called for an overhaul of road pricing in Australia, including a recommendation that the possibility of congestion charging in our cities should be considered.

Ken Henry is right. The failure to accurately and adequately recover costs for road space disadvantages all Australians including motorists and public transport users.

A mature discussion needs to begin in the public sphere about what type of road pricing system we need to fund future transport infrastructure needs and how best to deliver it.

The Forgotten Arm of Government

Felicity Ann Lewis, Deputy President, Australian Local Government Association

The liveability of our suburbs, towns and regions relates primarily to how transport works in these areas.

Local Government has a critical role to play in ensuring that planning, transport services and user needs are integrated and delivered on the ground.

A greater focus is required by the Federal Government to ensure Local Government has the capacity to meet the transport mobility needs of commuters in the future.

Social Inclusion: Connecting People to Community

Professor John Stanley, Institute of Transport and Logistics Studies, University of Sydney

Individuals' access to employment, education, recreation and social activities is critical to the economy and personal well being.

Lack of access to transport as a result of age, not holding a license, the cost of owning a car or an alternative choice creates social exclusion, particularly in outer metropolitan and regional areas.

Federal Government transport policy needs to support more effective land use management, transport planning and minimum service levels for access to public transport for every Australian no matter their circumstances.

Physical Activity and Health Benefits

Professor Adrian Bauman, Heart Foundation

The links between physical activity and health care are indisputable.

The value of walking, cycling and catching public transport as a means of obtaining the obligatory 30 minutes of exercise a day for commuters, school children and the general community are significant.

Promotion of alternative travel choices to the car by the Federal Government and education about travel choices through programs such as TravelSmart can provide significant reductions in heart disease, diabetes and improves general well being as well as a valuable saving in health budget revenue.