

STATE BUDGET

2019-20

MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT HON STEPHAN KNOLL MP MEDIA RELEASE

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Pushing ahead with public transport reforms

The Marshall Government is developing and implementing a number of key public transport reforms to provide a better service to customers and drive patronage growth.

Some of the key public transport projects outlined in the 2019-20 State Budget as well as projects currently underway, include;

- Gawler line electrification project (\$615 million)
- Extension of the Tonsley Rail Line to the Flinders Medical Centre (\$125 million);
- Building new Park 'n' Rides (\$33.5 million)
- A new station on the Tonsley line (\$8 million);
- An extension of 11 country bus contracts;
- The establishment of the South Australian Public Transport Authority (SAPTA);
- Tendering for both the new Bus Supply and Bus Services contracts; and
- North East Transport Study exploring extending the O-Bahn to Golden Grove.

“The Marshall Government is reforming our public transport network to drive patronage by providing a better and more customer focussed service,” said Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government Stephan Knoll.

“South Australia has one of the lowest public transport patronage rates in the country and the worst level of integration across our network.

“Under the previous Labor administration, overall public transport patronage declined over the last three full financial years to 2017-18.

“In fact, patronage in 2017-18 was actually less than almost ten years ago in 2009-10.”

“Given this declining patronage has occurred on the backdrop of population growth, it is obvious South Australians are turning away from public transport system.

“We need to turn this around and put the public back into public transport.

“That’s why we are introducing a host of reforms to grow patronage by providing a better service, a customer focussed network and a more integrated network.

“We are continuing to invest in new public transport infrastructure projects, including the \$125 million extension of the Tonsley rail line to the Flinders Medical Centre project and \$8 million for a new train station on the Tonsley rail line.

“This builds on the \$615 million Gawler line electrification project and \$33.5 million to build new Park 'n' Rides along the O-Bahn, already or soon to be underway.

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“The Government has quarantined increases in public transport fares to 2 per cent in 2019-20, which will add only 10 cents to a single trip ticket, 7 cents to a MetroCard single fare and \$2 to a regular 28 Day pass.

“We are also tendering for two of the most significant contracts within the State Government’s purview, the contract for the provision of new buses and the contract for the provision of bus services.

“Through these contracts, we will be delivering more flexible, innovative and better bus services for South Australians.

“We will be bringing South Australia’s public transport system into the 21st century.

“We also continue to explore new innovative technologies that will improve the service we can provide to South Australians, including On-Demand bus trials.

“This reform process will not happen overnight and we will continue to roll out measures and build public transport infrastructure over the coming weeks, months and years as we strive to deliver a better and more customer focussed service.”