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**Infrastructure SA  
Online Submission**

Contact: John Harry - CEO

**RE: 20-Year State Infrastructure Strategy – Discussion Paper**

Thank you for the opportunity to give feedback on the Discussion Paper.

Council is supportive of an independent approach to assessing the State's infrastructure needs and the creation of a shorter term Capital Intention Programme.

The City of Salisbury is one of South Australia's most populous and economically significant areas. Already housing more than 140,000 residents, our population is expected to increase to more than 150,000 residents by 2036 with significant infill development. Should the development of the 11000 dwelling units on Dry Creek Salt fields occur, this will more than double the aforementioned population growth.

Salisbury is a key part of the State's economy, being the fourth largest economy by value (\$6.5 billion) and third largest when considered in terms of jobs (53,700). The Council is a leader in environmental management, most notably through its managed aquifer recharge and wetlands investments.

The City is home to some of South Australia's key economic infrastructure including its established technology precinct in Mawson Lakes, the Edinburgh Defence Base and surrounding defence precinct, South Australia's largest planned industrial estate at Edinburgh Parks, SA Water's wastewater treatment plant at Bolivar, University of SA's Mawson Lakes campus and South Australia's wholesale fresh produce market at Pooraka. The combination of these assets, along with supporting services, firmly position Salisbury as a key node in the state's defence, food, water, advanced manufacturing, space and cybersecurity industries. As such infrastructure to support these assets and across South Australia is vital if the State Government is to reach its 3% per annum growth target.

To fully capitalise on the industry and investment potential in the region and job creation, it is necessary to ensure that infrastructure investment especially in the transport network, supports increased passenger and freight movement. There is also a need for accelerated high speed internet infrastructure and connectivity (10 gig) to support increasing technology enhancements within business activity and smart technology infrastructure to develop industry precincts of the future to ensure that the region remains a place of choice for existing and new businesses.

Additionally, as the local residential population increases, and more people are travelling to and from the region for employment, transport infrastructure supporting passenger movement across the northern Adelaide region is increasingly important. Increased train services along the Gawler line, improved road networks and bus routes supporting east-west and north-south connectivity (especially into the key industrial and retail precincts), along with soft infrastructure supporting population growth, are essential.

The State has made recent investments in the Northern Connector and announced its intention to electrify the Gawler Rail Line. Collectively these investments represent around \$1.5 billion in infrastructure spending. The City of Salisbury considers that the value of this investment can be multiplied with further investment in:

1. Upgrading the roads that feed into the Northern Connector, specifically upgrading Waterloo Corner Road and Kings Road to ensure east-west freight connectivity between industrial zones and the north south corridor, and ease of increased in commuter travel;
2. Creating grade separation of the Gawler Rail Line at the Kings Road and Park Terrace crossings. These initiatives will improve freight and commuter movements across northern Adelaide and, in the case of the Park Terrace crossing, support the broader revitalisation of the Salisbury City Centre.
3. Relocating the national rail freight line to within the Northern Connector corridor rather than running through the heart of urban areas. This, combined with the electrification of the Gawler Rail Line, has the potential to act as a catalyst for further urban regeneration.

With an increasing population, and large multicultural community, infrastructure to support social connectivity and community wellness, including health services, community integration, and education and training, is also required. There is opportunity to investigate increased utilisation of the TAFE SA Salisbury Campus to support workforce needs and skills gaps, especially within the defence and cyber security sectors, and to investigate ways of cross-collaboration with key education and training providers to deliver on the Government's workforce agenda. This promotes liveable neighbourhoods that enhance social fabric and economic wellbeing.

In addition to the above, Council has also identified a range of infrastructure priorities that would address existing issues and create new opportunities. These include:

1. Bringing forward the duplication of Elder Smith Road and its extension to Port Wakefield Road (which was identified in the previous Integrated Transport and Land Use Plan as a medium to longer term priority),
2. Upgrading transport and digital infrastructure in Edinburgh Parks to reinforce its role as a globally significant defence and food processing precinct and
3. Investment in stormwater infrastructure to open up new economic opportunities in Greater Edinburgh Parks and mitigate flooding risk along Dry Creek.

Council also encourages the strategy to:

1. Create a separate section on Integration, as State sponsored infrastructure creates maximum value when integrated with Local Government and private infrastructure. All are significant role-players, funders and wealth generators. (Local Government Association of South Australia is also making a submission, and they promote local government as an infrastructure partner).
2. Create a separate section on the Environment as the theme of environmentally sound infrastructure appears hidden in other chapters. Describe the type of infrastructure that future generations want; such as environmentally sound, convenient, comfortable, flexible, and ones that generate an income for the household (microgrids are a good example). Young adults are well aware that non-polluting, clean, environmentally friendly, sustainable, socially equitable, economically equitable industries already exist. They see it daily on their social media platforms and they expect new infrastructure to match these standards.
3. Create a separate section on Disruptive Technology (DT) as this will have a profound influence on infrastructure across multiple sectors. For example, public transport is likely to

receive a full face lift. Some DT commentators forecast that public/shared transport is likely to become free, convenient and comfortable- the antithesis of what is offered in many cities at present. Other sectors are also likely to be significantly disrupted. DT like block chain, micro grids and falling price points will likely create significant change and tipping points in historically stable infrastructure sectors.

4. Highlight how other Acts, like the Landscape Act, are likely to influence infrastructure development.

Council has recently been in communication with the Honorable Minister Stephan Knoll in connection with advancing the projects listed above to maximise existing investments and enhance economic growth for Salisbury and the State, and the Minister has supported referral of those projects to Infrastructure SA for consideration.

Council agrees that infrastructure is an enabler and council looks forward to contributing to the development of the Strategy and the Capital Intention Programme, and would appreciate, if possible, the opportunity to discuss in more detail the importance of these initiatives to the ongoing development of the state, and Salisbury more specifically.

Yours faithfully

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John Harry  
CEO