Road tolling in New South Wales

Recommendations

Recommendation 1 37

That the NSW Government publish a contract summary of the WestConnex – M4 Widening Project Deeds on the WestConnex website.

Recommendation 2 50

That the NSW Government publish the expected internal rate of return for future individual privately operated tolled roads, at suitable intervals.

Recommendation 3 51

That the NSW Government:

- mandate the disclosure of strategic business cases, appropriately redacted of commercial in confidence information, for major infrastructure projects such as toll roads,
- publish the base case financial models for the NorthConnex and WestConnex projects, and future projects, 18 months after either: (a) the commencement of construction on a project, or (b) after the opening of the first stage of a project, whichever comes first,
- mandate the disclosure of cost benefit analysis at the same time as the base case financial model is published, and
- mandate the disclosure of traffic forecast modelling and any reviews of this traffic forecast modelling, appropriately redacted of commercial in confidence information, for major infrastructure projects such as toll roads, at the same time as the base case financial model is published.

Recommendation 4 60

That the NSW Government ensure that the consumer price index be considered as the default position of the road toll escalation rate for future concession agreements.

Recommendation 5 66

That the NSW Government ensure that the same level of transparency and accountability as required by a public sector agency be applied to the Sydney Motorway Corporation and any future infrastructure delivery entity.

Recommendation 6 66

That the NSW Government:

- annually publish remuneration for the senior executives of Sydney Motorway Corporation
- issue directions to the Sydney Motorway Corporation so that it complies with the Government Information (Public Access) laws.

Recommendation 7

That the NSW Government, prior to signing any future road tolling concession agreement, establish an independent entity that can publish an informed statement on whether any proposed road tolling agreement safeguards the public interest.

Recommendation 8 79

That the NSW Government investigate the costs and benefits of implementing a capped toll across all of Sydney's road network, and publish this information so that the community can have an informed debate.

Recommendation 9 81

That the NSW Government identify and publish the evidence supporting its decision to toll heavy vehicles three times that of light vehicles.

Recommendation 10 95

That the NSW Government ensure that new or renegotiated road tolling concession agreements enhance the ability of future governments to manage the wider road network.