

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Like many of you, I spend a lot of my day talking to industry peers, colleagues, members and clients about infrastructure, the trends, the inspiration, the opportunities, the great ideas, and the impending challenges.

I like to think I'm pretty optimistic, but with creeping uncertainty in our daily lives – and with some real recent global challenges fresh in our memories - it has become pretty hard to piece it all together, and respond to the catalytic questions I inevitably get asked; “what is the future of infrastructure in Queensland?”

It is difficult to predict how Queensland will look over the next decade. Of course, the 2032 Games provides a great platform for generational transformation, but building a coalition of key decision-makers and influencers with the same shared priorities is always a challenging task.

Some of the State's great infrastructure minds from within the public and private sectors have submitted their wish list and catalogue of infrastructure investment across the infrastructure sector including transport, venues, water, energy and digital. The reality is that while we do have a great opportunity ahead of us, we will always be constrained by the availability of capital, resources and – most definitively – time, to deliver on the ideas being generated. There is little doubt that investment will need to be rationalised and investment will need to be prioritised ideally, on the generational public value they generate.

This public value can be maximised by considering the following:

An opportunity to build a shared understanding of the infrastructure priorities through a frank and open conversation that identifies our critical infrastructure needs and aligns governments, communities and industry.

From here, we must develop a programmed and committed pipeline that considers urgency, legacy and market capacity throughout the supply chain. This will bring much-needed transparency for locally based businesses and specialist suppliers over the next decade.

Sustainable and generative investment that transforms our economy for the future. Collectively, we need to think beyond 2032 towards an investment program that transforms and reforms our region by providing new opportunities in emerging markets and sectors, ensuring our continued momentum and economic prosperity.

The 22nd of July will mark our two-year anniversary of the announcement of Brisbane 2032 and the deadline is set. While we can't deliver on every great idea that has been generated over the last two years we can take the opportunity to create a shared understanding of our critical needs, introducing greater certainty of project pipeline for key participants, and developing a public value mindset, that maximises the time we have left to leave a sustainable, lasting legacy.

Thank you everyone.

All the best,
Jon Frew, Chair