

MEDIA RELEASE

Amanda Bresnan MLA, Transport Spokesperson, ACT Greens

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Will a new Majura Parkway be Tolled?

Putting a toll on the Majura Parkway may be the only way the ACT Government will obtain funding for the project, according to Infrastructure Australia's latest report to the Council of Australian Governments.

The report's "suggested funding conditions" for the Majura Parkway project asks that *"the road be tolled with a view to ensuring that a reasonable proportion of capital costs and all the road's operational and maintenance costs, are recovered through tolls"*.

Greens transport spokesperson, Amanda Bresnan, said that this potential toll was one of many issues about the road that the Government had failed to tell the public.

"I'd like to see the Government be frank with the public about a whole range of issues surrounding the proposed Majura freeway, including whether it proposes to impose a toll on the road," said Ms Bresnan.

"We have already seen the Government ignore a number of serious questions such as the impacts the proposed freeway would have on future congestion and transport options. The Government and the Liberals recently denied a Greens' Assembly motion to ensure scrutiny of these issues."

"It is interesting to see a body like Infrastructure Australia suggesting that we can't keep relying on major road building; today its spokesperson said we need to increase the capacity of our public transport, otherwise be prepared to pay more tolls and taxes for roads".

"The ACT Government should examine the issue of whether high speed public transport will bring better solutions for commuters than a new Majura Freeway, as well as if the public would prefer public transport over a tolled freeway".

"The Government must tell the public if it wants a toll on Majura Parkway. If it won't apply a toll, will the Government pay the whole \$288million for the project itself? The Greens think that money could go to better solutions".

"The Greens maintain that the existing Majura Road should be upgraded, and that the Government

should focus on quality public transport solutions for Gungahlin commuters,” said Ms Bresnan.