

Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP
Treasurer

Hon Stephen Mullighan MP
Minister for Transport and Infrastructure

Friday, 16 December, 2016

\$24m for severe weather recovery including \$11m for road repair

The 2016-17 Mid-Year Budget Review will deliver \$24 million towards the State's recovery from September's catastrophic storms, including \$11m for repairs to roads damaged in the unprecedented weather events.

Floods and storm damage caused some of the most significant and extensive damage ever seen to the State's road infrastructure, with more than 780 sites throughout South Australia identified as requiring repairs.

The investment in road repairs is part of the Government's \$24.2 million severe weather response which also includes:

- \$9m for financial hardship and emergency assistance grants of up to \$700 per household
- A \$3.4m package to assist northern Adelaide Plains horticulturists recover from flood damage
- \$300,000 to repair jetties and other marine infrastructure. The total cost of repair of \$4.4m is largely covered by insurance
- \$524,000 to fund an independent review into the State's emergency management and recovery arrangements.

Background

The severe weather events in September led to major structural damage on some roads, as well as extensive landslips and major deposits of debris which had to be cleared before repair works could begin.

The storm and flooding events also accelerated wear and tear on the road network, adding to the list of repair works.

Works to repair road assets damaged by the storms, including road pavements, shoulders and embankments are progressing. Major clean up works have been completed on waterfall Gully, Lobethal and Gorge roads.

A major road collapse at Norton Summit Road has also been completed and works to repair the collapse on North East Road are underway.

The worst damage to jetties was in regional areas with the four most severely damaged structures managed by councils.

The Yorke Peninsula Council has selected contractors for early repair works to partially reopen the Port Victoria and Port Rickaby jetties soon, while a tender call for the Elliston Jetty closes next month.

The District Council of Mt Remarkable is also in negotiations with a contractor to repair the State-Heritage listed Port Germein Jetty.

Recognising the economic and social significance of jetties to regional towns, the State Government offered to meet the cost of any repair works which were not covered by insurance.

Repairs to the State Government's Wallaroo Spur Jetty are well underway and elsewhere other works are progressing with many smaller repairs completed.

Quotes attributable to Treasurer Tom Koutsantonis

The destruction caused by the catastrophic storms that hit our State in September was devastating, but the force of that destruction has been well and truly matched by the recovery effort.

With resilience and determination, South Australia came together to rebuild and the State Government, of course, provided all assistance necessary to support recovery efforts.

While grants have provided emergency relief to households and businesses, boosting funding to recovery efforts such as rebuilding roads and other infrastructure has been equally important.

Quotes attributable to Transport and Infrastructure Minister Stephen Mullighan

Works to repair the damage from the storms on our public infrastructure began almost immediately as the water had subsided and it was safe to do so.

Specialists were engaged, such as geologists and arborists, to assess the condition of roads and the stability of embankments, trees and other vegetation which may have been undermined, further adding to costs.

While the Government reopened roads to the public as soon as possible, the unparalleled damage caused to public infrastructure means that even now, months on, the recovery process is still underway and is likely to continue for some time.

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