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# BUILD HIGH SPEED RAIL

Only the Greens have a vision and a plan to build a clean, efficient, transport future with high speed rail.

## WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

We need to improve the affordability and connectedness between our South-Eastern cities, boost the opportunity and reduce our transport emissions. The Greens stand ready to deliver high speed rail.

To begin this nation-transforming project, the Greens will fast-track intergovernmental agreements and legisla

We will establish a dedicated High Speed Rail Authority (HSRA) to develop and manage the project. The Authority will develop an investment plan for the project, survey the best rail corridors & secure the ownership of these routes.

Sustainability is at the core of what we do. That's why we'll start a comprehensive environmental impact assessment in the most responsible way.



## 21ST CENTURY INFRASTRUCTURE

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High speed rail's time has come, but Australia needs courage and vision to get it moving. The old party has the will to really embrace this nation-building project. Only the Greens have a vision and a plan to build it.

Just when we need to improve the affordability and connectedness between our South-Eastern cities and support manufacturing jobs and reduce our transport emissions, the promises of High Speed Rail are being fulfilled.

As part of the agreement to support the minority Labor government, the Australian Greens secured a commitment to a feasibility study. That feasibility study demonstrated that it will cut pollution, enhance business and passenger transport.

## > TRANSFORMING A VISION INTO REALITY

Every continent except Antarctica and Australia is operating or developing High Speed Rail. It is a status symbol for Japan and China. The United States of America is set to join them as they begin construction in September. The Los Angeles line. The Greens are the only party with the long-term vision to start work on the proposed rail network.

Line 1: Sydney to Melbourne (2 hours 44 mins) comprising of Canberra to Sydney (1 hour) and Melbourne to Sydney (1 hour 44 mins)

Line 2: Sydney to Brisbane (2 hours 37 mins) comprising of Sydney to Newcastle (40 mins); and Newcastle to Brisbane (2 hours 37 mins)

Once complete, the High Speed Rail will stretch 1,750km linking 11 major cities and regions all the way from Sydney to Brisbane through the regional centres of Coffs Harbour, Wagga Wagga, Albury-Wodonga and Central Coast.<sup>i</sup>

The commissioned phase two report laid down a plan for rolling out the High Speed Rail Project in several stages. The accelerated timetable envisaged in the report. The preliminary requirements are preparing an investment plan, securing those rail corridors through agreement with the states and submitting a suite of comprehensive reports.

To begin this nation-transforming project, the Greens are committing to fast track high speed rail. We will:

- Fast-track intergovernmental agreements and legislation to get high speed rail moving.

- Establish a dedicated High Speed Rail Authority (HSRA) to develop and manage the project. The Authority will:

- Preparing a detailed financing and investment plan for the project.

- Surveying the best rail corridors with the relevant state and local governments

- Secure ownership of those routes and confirm the development and operation plan of the project through the states

- Commence a comprehensive environmental impact assessment.

Once all these preliminary requirements have been achieved, construction will be ready to commence. The Parliamentary Budget Office at \$664 million over the forward estimates period, plus the costs of the land acquisition has been costed at \$570 million. The Greens have budgeted for the full cost of the EIS but note it may be completed in a shorter period. 100% of this cost will be funded by the Commonwealth government without any assistance or contribution from the states or local enterprise.

<sup>i</sup> High Speed Rail Study Phase 2 Report page 8.

 [Download the High Speed Rail Initiative \(PDF, 447Kb\)](#)

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TRANSPORT

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