



**The Hon Michael McCormack MP**

Deputy Prime Minister  
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and  
Regional Development  
Leader of The Nationals  
Federal Member for Riverina

**The Hon Stephen Marshall MP**

Premier of South Australia  
State Member for Dunstan

**Rowan Ramsey MP**

Federal Member for Grey

**The Hon Stephan Knoll MP**

Minister for Transport, Infrastructure  
and Local Government  
State Minister for Schubert

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

Saturday 29 June 2019

**UPGRADING 66 KILOMETRES OF ROADS IN THE APY LANDS**

66 kilometres of road between Mimili and Iwantja (Indulkana) in South Australia's Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands will be upgraded thanks to the Federal Liberal and Nationals' Government working with the State Liberal Government.

Deputy Prime Minister and Nationals' Leader Michael McCormack said the investment in the APY Lands is about bringing jobs, opportunities and safer roads to Australia's remote communities.

"When we say the Liberals and Nationals are investing in safer roads no matter where you live, we mean it," Mr McCormack said.

"Your postcode should not determine your potential and this investment is another way the Federal Liberals and Nationals, working with the State Liberals in Government, are delivering the investment communities need and deserve right around South Australia."

The State Government will deliver approximately \$43 million investment for this stage of the APY Lands Main Access Road Upgrade Project.

The APY Lands Main Access Road Upgrade Project is set to upgrade a total of 210 kilometres of the Main Access Road and 21 kilometres of community access roads between the Stuart Highway and Pukatja (Ernabella) in the APY Lands.

Major works for this 66-kilometre section between Mimili and Iwantja commenced this week, and are expected to be completed by July 2020, weather permitting.

"This important project aims to improve the living standards of the local Anangu by providing safer and better access to essential services and facilities, along with reduced travel times and vehicle operating costs," said Premier Marshall.

"These works are expected to support around 40 jobs with a minimum of around 13 jobs (32 per cent) for local Anangu.

"This will deliver on the commitment made by the government in consultation with the APY Executive Board, to ensure a minimum of 30 per cent of total on-site labour hours be undertaken by local Anangu."

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Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government Stephan Knoll said that the contract had been awarded to South Australian company, Lucas Total Contract Solutions Pty Ltd.

“The South Australian company has previously performed infrastructure works in the APY Lands including remediation of waste facilities and construction of the 7-kilometre section from the Stuart Highway to Iwantja (Indulkana),” said Minister Knoll.

“This local South Australian company has demonstrated a strong commitment to working with and employing local Anangu through creation and up-skilling of long term unemployed and indigenous peoples.”

“The works between Mimili and Iwantja (Indulkana) include the formation and sheeting of 66 kilometres of new pavement, predominantly along the existing alignment, with some realignment on the adjacent natural surface, and will also involve improvements to drainage.”

Federal Member for Grey Rowan Ramsey said the Federal Government is contributing \$113.42 million towards the \$141.78 million project with the remaining \$28.36 million being provided by the South Australian Government.

“To date, a total of 54 kilometres of Main Access Road has been upgraded, including the Pukatja (Ernabella) Airstrip Access Road, a 7-kilometre section from the Stuart Highway to Iwantja (Indulkana) and the 43-kilometre section between Pukatja (Ernabella) to Umuwa (Double Tank,” Mr Ramsey said.

“But there is more work to do and the Federal and State Governments – working together – are determined to deliver our promise to upgrade roads in the APY Lands, create local jobs and help improve local communities.”

Further information on the APY Lands Main Access Road Upgrade Project can be found at [www.dpti.sa.gov.au/apylands](http://www.dpti.sa.gov.au/apylands)

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