



Government  
of South Australia

## Darren Chester

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport

## Stephen Mullighan

SA Minister for Transport and Infrastructure

## Rowan Ramsey

Federal Member for Grey

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# Joint Media Statement

13 February 2017

## **\$21.4m contract awarded for APY Lands Main Access Road upgrade**

Work is set to start on building 43 kilometres of the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Main Access Road, after the \$21.4 million contract was awarded to Toll Mining Services.

Federal Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Darren Chester said the contract covered a section of road between Pukatja (Ernabella) and Umuwa.

“The works include the formation and sheeting of 43 kilometres of new pavement, mainly along the existing alignment, with some realignment on the adjacent natural surface and will involve improvements to drainage,” Mr Chester said.

“The works are part of the upgrade 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.

“The project aims to improve living standards of the local Anangu by providing better access to essential services and facilities, along with reduced travel times and vehicle operating costs.”

South Australian Transport and Infrastructure Minister Stephen Mullighan said the contract was expected to support an estimated 55 jobs.

“At a minimum, approximately 18 jobs will go to local Anangu,” Mr Mullighan said

“This is in line with the State Government’s commitment, 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. This is in addition to the \$9.7 million of contracts already awarded as part of the \$106.25 million project, which has seen around 34 per cent of total on-site construction hours undertaken by Anangu.”

Federal Member for Grey Rowan Ramsey said the funding was welcome news for these communities.

“This is a tough and remote part of our State with a significant population. Everything from health services through to food costs extra because of the state of the main road and this investment will make a considerable difference to the lives of those who live and work there,” Mr Ramsey said.

State Member for Giles Eddie Hughes welcomed the latest stage of the project, providing residents of the APY Lands access to decent transport infrastructure.

“It’s good to see the partnership between the State and Federal governments delivering for the people in the APY lands,” Mr Hughes said.

“It’s especially encouraging to see that employment is being created through the project for the residents of the APY Lands.”

Preliminary onsite works are anticipated to start this month and be completed in the last quarter of this year, weather permitting.

The Australian Government is contributing \$85 million towards the \$106.25 million project with \$21.25 million from the State Government. The project is due for completion in mid-2019. Further information can be found at the [APY Lands Main Access Road Upgrade Project](#) page.

**Media Contacts**

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<b>For Mr Chester:</b>	<b>Kate Barwick</b>	<b>0408 072 809</b>
<b>For Mr Mullighan:</b>	<b>Rebecca Brice</b>	<b>0427 695 927</b>
<b>For Mr Ramsey:</b>	<b>Leonie Lloyd-Smith</b>	<b>0417 827 523</b>
<b>For Mr Hughes:</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>08 8645 7800</b>