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Joint Media Release

INVESTING IN CAPE YORK ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The Federal Labor Government will provide up to \$210 million to upgrade roads and essential community infrastructure including power and sewerage in the Cape York region of Far North Queensland.

Federal Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Anthony Albanese said this is a significant investment in the Far North and would help unlock future economic opportunities.

“There is significant economic activity in the Cape York region. However, a lack of vital infrastructure means that many Indigenous communities are unable to take advantage of the opportunities this activity brings,” he said.

“This investment is about putting in place good infrastructure that will unlock the region’s full potential. This will improve accessibility to the Cape York region, create new jobs and support mining and tourism in the area.”

The funding will deliver:

- Upgrades to the road between Mapoon and Weipa and the road connecting Aurukun to the Peninsula Development Road to an all-weather standard.
- Improvements to the Jardine River crossing;
- The redevelopment of the Seisia Wharf.
- Improvements to the raw water pipeline from Bamaga to Seisia.
- Small scale improvements to community drainage.

Minister for Regional Services, Catherine King said the investment would make people’s lives easier and businesses more competitive.

“Upgrading these roads to an all-weather standard will mean fewer disruptions for locals as well as business owners and tourists during the Far North’s renowned wet seasons,” she said.

“The upgrade to the Jardine River Bridge will enable large trucks to travel to the region improving development opportunities and access for the delivery of food and other necessities.”

Senator McLucas said the infrastructure investments would make economic development opportunities available to communities in Cape York.

“These improvements to key infrastructure will make an immense difference to people and business in Cape York. The redevelopment of the Seisia Wharf will open the region up to further economic opportunities,” Senator McLucas said

For a region supported by mining and tourism, well planned and modern infrastructure is the key to economic growth and future productivity

This new funding is part of the record \$16.6 billion the Federal Labor Government is investing in the State’s road and rail infrastructure.

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Cape York Region Package

