



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport, Regional  
Development & Local Government Committee**

*Chair: Catherine King MP*

# Smart infrastructure in Australia

Smart infrastructure can open up restricted routes in cities to significantly improve travel times and quality of life, chair of the House Standing Committee on Infrastructure Catherine King said today.

Ms King said intelligent transport systems, improved communications and smart electricity grids were the “way of the future” as Australia’s urban areas responded to increasing population.

“Smart infrastructure can improve safety and reduce congestion in our cities,” Ms King said. “It can dramatically improve our quality of life and boost productivity.”

Examples of smart infrastructure included air traffic control global navigation surveillance systems, traffic signalling that adjusted to peak periods, smart electricity grids delivering more efficient energy use and utilising mobile networks for greater work efficiency.

“Toward this end, I am please to announce the House Standing Committee on Infrastructure will hold a smart infrastructure conference in Canberra when Parliament returns in 2010,” Ms King said.

“This will have implications for governments and business in sectors such as transport, energy, communications and water.”

The Conference will focus on ways to maximise the potential benefits of embedding smart technology into Australia’s infrastructure, including:

- using smart technology to increase the productivity of existing infrastructure;
- community uses for smart infrastructure;
- smart infrastructure’s role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions;
- opportunities for and benefits of new investment in smart infrastructure; and
- maximising smart infrastructure opportunities through government project selection processes.

Ms King said by hosting this conference, the Committee was seeking to begin an ongoing engagement with the Australian community as part of its new inquiry into smart infrastructure.

Further information regarding the inquiry and the conference will be available from the Committee’s website in coming days: <http://www.aph.gov.au/itrdlg>

## **For background information:**

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