

## Funding coming and going for local roads, infrastructure

SOUTH Australian councils relying on funding from the Local Roads Supplementary Fund may need to find funding elsewhere after the Federal Government announced the fund would be scrapped.

In 2013-14, the Federal Government contributed \$17.8 million to the State to be used for local roads.

Member for Hammond Adrian Pederick said there could be funding opportunities for roads elsewhere, such as regional and infrastructure funding.

"I don't think the long term aim for the Federal Government is to let the program slip away," Mr Pederick said.

He said he would approach Member for Barker Tony Pasin to see what could be done to support the work of councils.

"There are many thousands of kilometres of local roads throughout the State that need attention," he said.

Nationally, an additional \$200 million has been allocated to the Federal Black Spot Program and \$350 million to the Roads to Recovery program, including an increase from \$31.1 million to \$31.5 million in the South Australian Roads to Recovery portion.

"I certainly welcome that amount of Black Spot funding, it's absolutely vital for our roads," he said.

Mr Pederick supported the North-South Road Corridor in Adelaide, even though funding for Dukes Highway improvements would not be provided.

"As a country member, my priority has been to have the Dukes Highway duplicated ... I will keep up the campaign and see what happens

there," he said.

"But it comes down to numbers of traffic - I welcome the commitment to fix up the bottleneck."

The Federal Government has also made \$5 billion available through the Asset Recycling Initiative, where state governments are encouraged to privatise assets in order to receive additional funding for infrastructure.

A bi-annual indexation of fuel excise will be reintroduced on August 1, 2014, based on the Consumer Price Index, but Mr Pederick said it would not be placed on farming and mining.