

# Funding shortfall to stall infrastructure



QUEENSLAND is staring at a \$1 billion hole in being able to fund critical public infrastructure around the state within three years.

Infrastructure Association of Queensland chief executive Steve Abson (pictured) said it meant dozens of crucial, economy-stimulating creating major projects flagged for regional areas, as well as Brisbane simply would not be able to be built and up to 2000 fewer construction jobs would be created.

"This level of shortfall means that governments will have to make some very tough choices about which major projects go ahead and which have to be sacrificed," he said.

Analysis by BIS Shrapnel in the Queensland Major Projects Pipeline Report found a funding gap of \$332 million in 2017-18, rising to \$740 million in the following year.

"A shortfall of \$1 billion a year is equivalent to 10 major projects, worth \$250 million each, to be built over two and a half years," Mr Abson said.

"It's not about blame. Fiscal constraints in both State and Commonwealth governments mean that they are allocating funds within their current capacity. This constrained level of funding is creating gaps between what Queenslanders expect and what is currently affordable."