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MEDIA RELEASE

ACCOMMODATION INDUSTRY WELCOMES REGIONAL TOURISM BOOST

The state's peak accommodation hotel group has praised today's State Budget for maintaining Destination NSW funding and for securing \$110 million in new tourism infrastructure funds focusing on regional NSW.

Tourism Accommodation Australia (NSW)'s director Carol Giuseppi said the Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund was vitally important to boost jobs and tourism in the bush.

"This is a welcome announcement from the Deputy Premier," she said.

"A number of tourism destinations in regional NSW have a high proportion of day trippers with little in the way of infrastructure and events to encourage overnight stays.

"Equally, many regional destinations are overly reliant on one market segment.

"This investment in infrastructure will be vital both in improving the experience and acting as a "demand driver" which has the potential to 'even-out' the seasonality in demand."

Ms Giuseppi said TAA NSW had been a strong advocate for the need to increase the funding for significant regional projects.

"The \$110m Regional Tourism Infrastructure Fund is a fantastic opportunity to invest in infrastructure that creates demand and enables regional NSW to maximise the opportunities arising from its proximity and linkages with the global city of Sydney," she said.

Tourism Accommodation Australia (TAA) NSW is the state's leading representative organisation for 3, 4 and 5-star hotels, motels and serviced apartments in metropolitan and regional areas.

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