



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## CONSTRUCTION BLITZ TO TRANSFORM WESTERN ROADS

Road work is ramping up in the western suburbs as part of the Andrews Labor Government's Suburban Roads Upgrade, the biggest ever investment in Melbourne's arterial road network.

Key upgrades are getting underway on Leakes Road, Derrimut Road and Dunnings and Palmers Roads to slash congestion, improve access and safety and boost traffic flow for drivers from Point Cook to Tarneit.

Member for Altona District Jill Hennessy today announced the start of works on a construction blitz across these three critical projects as part of the \$4 billion Suburban Roads Upgrade.

An extra lane is being added in each direction on Leakes Road between Derrimut Road and Fitzgerald Road and 18 intersections will be upgraded to create a more reliable east-west route and take pressure off nearby local roads.

On Derrimut Road, drivers will enjoy an extra lane in each direction between Sayers Road and Dohertys Road and nine intersection upgrades to improve safety and unlock traffic flow around Tarneit.

Access will be boosted for drivers using Dunnings and Palmers Roads with an extra traffic lane added in each direction between the Princes Freeway and Point Cook Road, ten intersection upgrades and a dedicated bus lane in each direction from Wallace Avenue to Dunnings Road.

The three projects are part of the Western Roads Upgrade. This \$1.8 billion upgrade includes further road widening, duplications and intersection upgrades to fix eight congested roads in Melbourne's west over the next three years.

Work on the Dohertys Road upgrade started in June to build a second bridge over the Princes Freeway, add an additional lane each way between Fitzgerald Road and Grieve Parade and upgrade five key intersections.

Construction work is occurring behind barriers to keep these roads open while minimising impacts on commuters. Some lane closures and speed reductions may be required.

Major construction on the Western Roads Upgrade projects is being undertaken in stages to keep Melbourne's western suburbs moving. The project is expected to be completed by 2021.

The Western Roads Upgrade is part of the Suburban Roads Upgrade, a \$4 billion upgrade package targeting the western, northern and south-eastern suburbs to fix the roads Melburnians rely on every day.

### Quotes attributable to Member for Altona District Jill Hennessy MP

*"These necessary upgrades will drive down traffic congestion on our local roads so that people can spend less time commuting and more doing the things they enjoy."*

*"More than 18,000 drivers rely on Dunnings and Palmers Roads each day, so this upgrade will boost access to and from the Princes Freeway and Werribee and into the growing areas of Point Cook and Sanctuary Lakes."*