

Media Release

The Hon Ben Carroll MP
Minister for Public Transport
Minister for Roads and Road Safety



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MAINTENANCE BLITZ DELIVERING SAFER ROADS

The Andrews Labor Government is making Victoria's roads smoother and safer for drivers right across the state, with this year's road maintenance season underway.

Minister for Roads and Road Safety Ben Carroll said crews are out in force upgrading 2,000 kilometres of roads, filling an estimated 220,000 potholes and repairing or replacing more than 30,000 signs during the warmer, drier months.

Sections of vital routes across Melbourne are being rebuilt, including Eltham-Yarra Glen Road in the Yarra Ranges, College Crescent in Parkville, Old Dandenong Road in Heatherton and the Western Freeway at Melton.

In regional Victoria, parts of the Henty Highway in western Victoria, the Northern Highway near Echuca and the Hume Freeway in the north-east will all be upgraded.

The Princes and South Gippsland highways in Gippsland and the Hamilton Highway in the south west will also receive major investment.

The maintenance blitz will deliver upgrades to important local and tourist roads as well as some of Victoria's key freight routes which carry high volumes of heavy vehicles each day taking Victorian goods to the world.

The bulk of the road maintenance work is being delivered during the summer months, when weather conditions are best for road construction.

This year's upgrades are being funded as part of the Labor Government's \$653 million investment in road maintenance in the *Victorian Budget 2019/20* – and work will continue to make the state's roads safer and more comfortable next year with a further \$411 million invested in the *Victorian Budget 2020/21*.

The budget investment adds to the \$124 million injected into road maintenance by the Government in May as a part of the *Building Works* coronavirus stimulus package.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Roads and Road Safety Ben Carroll

"We're not only delivering smoother and safer roads for Victorians this maintenance season - we're supporting jobs on the ground right across the state and backing local businesses throughout the supply chain."

"We're doing the works at the time of year when weather is best for upgrades – and we remind motorists to be careful and drive to the conditions if they come across crews doing work."