

Media Release

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



Sunday, 2 May 2021

HUNDREDS WALK TO SUPPORT ROAD SAFETY

Hundreds of Victorians have gathered at Albert Park Lake today to remember Victorians who have lost their lives on our roads, and support people impacted by road trauma.

Minister for Roads and Road Safety Ben Carroll today joined the Andrews Labor Government's road safety partners for the annual Shine A Light on Road Safety walk, which sees more than 400 people walk five kilometres around Albert Park Lake each year to raise money for road trauma support and honour Victorian lives that have been affected by road trauma.

Already this year, 80 people have died on Victoria's roads – and hundreds more lives have been changed forever. Road Trauma Support Services Victoria, supported by the Transport Accident Commission, plays a vital role in supporting Victorians whose lives have been profoundly affected by road trauma get back on track.

The organisation offers free counselling services to more than 1800 people who have either been injured on our roads, lost a loved one or been impacted by road trauma in other ways, as well as running education sessions to more than 3,000 people across the state each year to help prevent road trauma.

The walk will be followed by events later this month to mark National Road Safety Week, from May 16 to 23 – when iconic landmarks across Melbourne and Victoria, as well as the state's road safety memorial in Geelong, will shine bright in yellow.

Victorian motorists will also be asked to turn their headlights on while driving on Friday, May 21, to show their commitment to practising good road safety habits.

For more information about RTSSV and the Shine a Light on Road Safety campaign, visit www.rtssv.org.au/.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Roads and Road Safety Ben Carroll

"Every Victorian life lost on our roads is one too many – and for every fatality, there are hundreds more people living with life-altering consequences of road trauma."

"I'm proud to join hundreds of Victorians and our dedicated road safety partners to raise awareness of the impacts of road trauma, and encourage every Victorian to think about what they can do to make our roads safer for everyone."

Quote attributable to Transport Accident Commission Acting CEO Liz Cairns

"The TAC gains more 20,000 clients every year, that's 20,000 lives forever impacted by road trauma as well as their family and friends."

Quote attributable to Road Trauma Support Services Victoria CEO Bernadette Nugent

"The Shine a Light on Road Safety community walk aims to raise the awareness about the devastating impact that road trauma has on people's lives and hopes to prevent further incidents."

Quote attributable to Head of Road Safety Victoria Robyn Seymour

"Today we come together to hear the stories of those affected by road trauma, and reflect on why it is vital we continue doing everything we can to make our roads safer for everyone."

Media contact: Matilda Edwards Jézéquel 0447 422 464 | matilda.edwards-jezequel@minstaff.vic.gov.au