

Media Release

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



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DON'T BLOCK THE BOX

The Andrews Labor Government is painting six busy intersections across Melbourne yellow, for a trial to reduce the number of cars blocking intersections which creates congestion and puts other motorists in danger.

Prominent signage, in conjunction with a large yellow box painted across the intersection and marked with a single X, will advise motorists to keep clear.

The intersections included in the trial have been identified as ones that are regularly blocked, causing gridlock and delaying trams and buses during peak times.

This creates a safety hazard for all road users including pedestrians and cyclists and is also a fineable offence. Current penalties for blocking an intersection attract three demerit points and a \$165 fine.

Under Victorian road rule 128, *'A driver must not enter an intersection or crossing when the intersection or crossing is blocked or the road beyond the intersection or crossing is blocked.'*

During the trial, the Victorian Government will collect data to determine how often intersections are blocked. It will also provide information about the patterns of traffic flow, delays, and test the overall effectiveness of the yellow box and signage.

The next phase of the trial which will commence in September, will see road safety cameras installed to identify offenders and determine how often offences are occurring. During the trial, motorists will receive a warning.

Every road user plays a part in how the network operates. By "not blocking the box" and keeping intersections clear, pedestrians are safer, traffic flows freely and public transport runs on time.

The six intersections involved in the trial are Swan Street/Burnley Street, Monash Freeway/Warrigal Road, High Street/Malvern Road, Williamsons Road/Foote Street, Power Street/Riversdale Road and Mickleham Road/Tullamarine Freeway Interchange.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Roads and Road Safety Ben Carroll

"This trial will help motorists navigate intersections without holding up other road users – by keeping the yellow box clear everyone gets a better run."

"Don't block intersections. It's as simple as that. You'll get to where you need to go in less time, and it will make the network safer for everyone."