



THE HON PAUL FLETCHER MP

Minister for Communications, Urban
Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts

THE HON JACINTA ALLAN MP

Victorian Minister for Transport Infrastructure

MEDIA RELEASE

5 October 2021

Getting on with upgrading South Road and Narre Warren North Road

- Two more construction contracts signed as part of a \$3 billion package of suburban and regional road upgrades in Victoria.
- Major works expected to start in December 2021.
- The Narre Warren North Road Upgrade will be delivered by Symal Group, while Negri Contractors will deliver the South Road Upgrade.
- The Narre Warren North Road Upgrade will improve capacity and create a better travel experience on this key north-south link in Melbourne's south east.
- The South Road Upgrade will improve five intersections between the Nepean Highway and Warrigal Road to deliver safer and more reliable travel times for 40,000 drivers each day.
- Both upgrades are expected to create about 165 jobs in total and generate about 441 indirect jobs throughout construction.

Drivers in Melbourne's south east are a step closer to safer, smoother and more reliable journeys as the next phase of a state-shaping road upgrade rolls out.

Symal Group will build the Narre Warren North Upgrade, while Negri Contractors have been selected to deliver the South Road Upgrade.

The Morrison Government and Victorian Government are funding both projects on a 50:50 basis, with each contributing \$22.5 million toward the South Road Upgrade project, and \$31 million each toward the Narre Warren North Road Upgrade project.

Both upgrades will create a total of about 600 jobs throughout construction, while improving capacity and creating a better travel experience in Melbourne's south-east.

Federal Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP, said the upgrades would help commuters get home sooner and safer.

"These projects are some of many critical infrastructure projects to receive funding from the Morrison Government as part of its record \$110 billion, 10-year infrastructure investment pipeline, which is helping to drive Australia's economic recovery," Minister Fletcher said.

Victorian Minister for Transport Infrastructure Jacinta Allan said the upgrades would ease congestion in Melbourne's south east.

“These upgrades will make driving easier and safer for thousands of Victorians who use these roads every single day,” Ms Allan said.

As part of the South Road Upgrade, five intersections will be improved between the Nepean Highway and Warrigal Road, to deliver safer and more reliable travel times for 40,000 drivers each day.

A new citybound right turn lane will be built to improve access to Nepean Highway along with a new right turning lane at the East Boundary Road intersection to relieve bottlenecks and reduce congestion.

The Narre Warren North Road upgrade will include increasing the number of lanes from two to four between Fox and Belgrave-Hallam roads, along with upgrades to the Heatherton Road, Ernst Wanke Road and Memorial Drive intersections to help improve safety and improve traffic flow.

These projects are part of a significant program of upgrades to Melbourne’s suburban roads.

Construction is underway and progressing well on the nearby Lathams Road and Hallam North Road. In the city’s north, upgrades to Fitzsimons Lane, Childs Road and Craigieburn Road are underway. These upgrades form part of the broader Suburban Roads Upgrade – South Eastern Roads and Northern Roads project and will support more than 4,500 direct Victorian jobs and a further 11,000 indirect jobs.

This record investment into Melbourne’s suburban road network will build on the successful Western Roads Upgrade which has delivered smoother, safer and more reliable journeys in the west.

Victoria’s Big Build projects are working together to transform busy and congested traffic hotspots into efficient transport corridors, with these south east road upgrade projects integral to these improvements.

Pound Road West and Frankston Dandenong Bridge upgrades are also in the early stages of construction. Delivering a new bridge over Cranbourne rail line, the project will provide a second connection between Abbots Road and South Gippsland Highway in Dandenong.

Media contact:

Minister Fletcher: Erin Forster | 0448 207 414 | erin.forster@communications.gov.au

Minister Allan: Hayley Bester | 0424 753 775 | hayley.bester@minstaff.vic.gov.au