

# Media Release

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



Friday, 10 December 2021

## **GILLES STREET CROSSING TO OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY**

Safer and more direct access to the Warrnambool waterfront is on its way with the Andrews Labor Government constructing a public crossing at Gilles Street.

The \$300,000 passive maze crossing will provide a shorter route between the town and the foreshore. This type of crossing was chosen to force pedestrians and cyclists to slow down and pay attention when crossing the rail line due to its maze-like shape.

The Gilles Street access road was historically used by pedestrians to access the waterfront prior to the installation of physical barriers to deter trespassers due to safety concerns. It is not currently accessible to the public.

In response to the community's calls for public access to the crossing, the Labor Government has been working closely with the Department of Transport and V/Line as part of investigations into the possible construction of a crossing at the location.

V/Line has already completed initial site inspections and detailed designs for the pedestrian crossing.

Contractor Sterling Infrastructure has been appointed to complete construction of the new crossing, with works expected to be completed in the coming months.

Until the works are completed, pedestrians are reminded the only safe place to cross the rail line is at a designated pedestrian crossing. The nearest existing pedestrian crossings are at the Pertobe Road overpass or the Wellington Street pedestrian crossing.

### **Quotes attributable to Minister for Public Transport Ben Carroll**

*"We've listened to the feedback, and after significant investigations and work behind the scenes, we are thrilled to be making this announcement."*

*"Safety is always our number one priority so we've taken the time to ensure we can provide a safe option for pedestrians wanting to use this popular access to the waterfront."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Western Victorian Gayle Tierney**

*"This important upgrade will help keep some of our most vulnerable road users safe and create more direct access to our iconic waterfront in Warrnambool."*