Media Release

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



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ROAD SAFETY FUNDING BOOST FOR VICTORIAN COMMUNITIES

The Andrews Labor Government is providing a funding boost to 90 Victorian schools, councils and not-for-profit organisations across the state with grants to deliver programs that reduce road trauma and save lives.

Minister for Roads and Road Safety Ben Carroll said 232 initiatives funded as part of the \$1.5 million *Community Road Safety Grants Program* will deliver targeted education programs and provide localised solutions to road safety.

Funding spread across the state will help all road user groups, including pedestrians, drivers, motorcyclists and bike riders, and reach a range of ages from young students to retirees.

More than \$700,000 has been invested in rural and regional communities to drive down trauma and address issues including vehicle safety, fatigue, and high-risk driver behaviour such as drink and drug driving.

The Safe Routes to School and Bike Ed initiatives will improve safety for Victorian students and families walking and riding to class, with recipients including Kidsafe Victoria and Surfing Victoria.

This year's grants program supports the *Victorian Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030*, which aims to halve road deaths and reduce serious injuries by 2030 and eliminate road deaths by 2050.

This is on top of the Labor Government's \$6.4 million investment in the *Community Road Safety Grants Program* over the last five years to help councils, schools and not-for-profit organisations deliver road safety initiatives.

For more information, please visit <u>vicroads.vic.gov.au/safety-and-road-rules/road-safety-programs/vicroads-community-road-safety-grants-program/standard-grants-program</u>.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Roads and Road Safety Ben Carroll

"Whether you are a student or retiree, a pedestrian, cyclist or motorist, these grants assist in bringing lifesaving messages to every corner of our state."

"Sadly, too many communities understand the impact road trauma can have – this program gives schools and groups the opportunity to work together at a grassroots level to improve road safety."