

# Media Release

**The Hon Jaala Pulford MLC**

Minister for Employment

Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy

Minister for Small Business

Minister for Resources



Thursday, 8 September 2022

## BETTER CONNECTIVITY FOR THE WESTERN SUBURBS

The Andrews Labor Government is improving mobile connectivity in Werribee and surrounding suburbs with new telco infrastructure and upgrades.

Through the Connecting Victoria program, the Labor Government is partnering with Optus and TPG Telecom to build a new 5G mobile tower and upgrade four existing towers to 5G, improving services across more than 115 square kilometres in Werribee, Werribee South and Point Cook.

This builds on Connecting Victoria's investment in Melbourne's outer west to date, which includes five new 5G mobile towers and upgrades to five existing towers in Tarneit, and better broadband connectivity through Business Fibre Zones in Rockbank, Mount Cottrell and Tarneit.

The work will be carried out between 2023 and 2026 and will deliver better connectivity to more than 13,000 homes and businesses.

Optus and TPG Telecom have agreed to share infrastructure at some these sites, giving locals a choice of mobile provider and improving competition.

Earlier this year the Government released the Connecting Victoria engagement report, voicing the needs of more than 11,000 Victorians for better mobile and broadband connections.

Feedback from the report highlighted mobile services need to be improved in Werribee and surrounding areas to keep up with population growth, boost businesses, support remote working and build community inclusion.

The Government's \$550 million Connecting Victoria program is fast-tracking improvements to mobile coverage and broadband access across the state. More projects in locations across the state, including regional cities, will be announced throughout 2022. To keep up to date, visit [vic.gov.au/connectingvictoria](https://vic.gov.au/connectingvictoria).

### **Quotes attributable to Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy Jaala Pulford**

*"Melbourne's west is one of the fastest-growing regions in Victoria and we're delivering upgrades and building infrastructure to support these communities, boost the local economy and create more jobs."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Werribee Tim Pallas**

*"We've listened to the community and these investments will help transform the way people work, live and do business in the west."*

### **Quote attributable to Vice-President of Regulatory and Public Affairs at Optus Andrew Sheridan**

*"This investment will be critical in hardening the mobile network, minimising connectivity outages and keeping more Victorians connected when it matters most."*

### **Quote attributable to Head of Infrastructure Strategy & Integrated Planning at TPG Telecom Paul Tremlett**

*"TPG Telecom is proud to partner with the Victorian Government to co-invest in mobile infrastructure and deliver 5G upgrades to Werribee and its surrounding areas."*

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