

# Media Release

**The Hon Melissa Horne MP**

Minister for Casino, Gaming and Liquor Regulation  
Minister for Local Government  
Minister for Ports and Freight  
Minister for Roads and Road Safety



Friday, 21 April 2023

## BOOSTING SAFETY ON LOCAL COUNCIL ROADS

The Andrews Labor Government is helping local governments across Victoria deliver road safety improvements to council-managed roads, intersections and precincts.

Minister for Roads and Road Safety Melissa Horne today announced a new Safe Local Roads and Streets Program will get underway over four years to boost safety for road users.

Around 33 per cent of road trauma occurs on local council-managed roads in Victoria each year. Of the 100 people who have died on Victorian roads this year, 32 have occurred on local roads which is nine higher than the five year average.

Recognising the barriers local governments face in delivering road safety improvements, the Safe Local Roads and Streets Program will support local governments to identify road safety issues in their area and implement solutions.

The new program will design and deliver safer infrastructure upgrades for communities including raised crossings, intersection upgrades, speed cushions, kerbing upgrades, pedestrian islands, safer speeds and roundabouts.

The Labor Government is investing \$210 million in the new program, fostering a partnership between local councils, the Department of Transport and Planning and the Transport Accident Commission to work closely together to identify, plan, develop and deliver more road safety upgrades across the state.

The program supports the *Victorian Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030*, which aims to halve road deaths and reduce serious injuries by 2030 and sets the state on a path to zero road deaths by 2050.

An expression of interest process will be held for councils interested in the first phase of the program. As part of this first stage, up to 10 councils will be selected to participate by working to understand the needs of local government and begin trialling approaches that will then be rolled out to all 79 councils.

### Quote attributable to Minister for Roads and Road Safety Melissa Horne

*"This program will support local governments across Victoria to deliver road safety improvements to council-managed roads, intersections and precincts in their areas, as well as make it easier for locals to get to where they need to go – whether it's to school, work or the shops."*

### Quote attributable to Transport Accident Commission CEO Joe Calafiore

*"Local councils play a pivotal role in identifying issues and improving road safety in their areas and this significant new program will help to reduce the risks and impact of trauma on local roads."*

### Quote attributable to Acting Head of Road Safety Victoria Marcelo Vidales

*"We all have a role to play when it comes to road safety which is why we're strengthening the way we plan and deliver road safety initiatives with local councils to drive down road trauma in Victorian and support safe and thriving communities."*

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