## **Media Release**

The Hon Jacinta Allan MP

Deputy Premier Minister for Transport and Infrastructure Minister for the Suburban Rail Loop



Thursday, 31 August 2023

## DYNON ROAD REOPENS FOR DRIVERS

Dynon Road has reopened this morning after an around the clock construction blitz as the Andrews Labor Government gets on with delivering the West Gate Tunnel Project, providing an alternative to the West Gate Bridge and taking thousands of trucks off local roads.

Over the last 11 weeks, crews have worked over 30,000 hours to strengthen and widen the Dynon Road bridge over the rail lines including replacing dozens of old steel beams and barriers from the existing bridge and pouring concrete to finish the new deck.

Metal structures weighing over 400 tonnes have been lifted into place for future cycling and pedestrian paths that will make it easier to get across Dynon Road bridge and connect to the broader cycling network.

The Dynon Road transformation is a crucial part of building new city connections as the West Gate Tunnel Project prepares for opening at the end of 2025.

While work continues widening the West Gate Freeway to cut travel times by up to 20 minutes, there will also be several overnight closures of the West Gate and Princes Freeways in alternating directions to install overhead gantries that will hold directional signs and electronic speed limit signs.

Motorists are advised to plan ahead, allow extra time and check the Big Build website at <u>bigbuild.vic.gov.au/west-gate</u> for more information.

The West Gate Tunnel Project will transform travel in Melbourne's west. It will deliver a vital alternative to the West Gate Bridge, providing a much needed second river crossing, and cut congestion and travel times.

It will also help remove around 9,000 trucks a day removed from local roads, create 14 kilometres of new and upgraded walking and cycling paths, and close to 9 hectares of new parks and wetlands.

## Quotes attributable to Minister for Transport and Infrastructure Jacinta Allan

"A strengthened and widened Dynon Road brings us closer to building the new city connections for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians in Melbourne's.

"The West Gate Tunnel Project will slash travel times, take more than 9,000 trucks off local roads, and get families home safer and sooner."

## **Quote attributable to Member for Footscray Katie Hall**

"We thank the public for their patience during the closure of Dynon Road while we carried out these critical works as quickly and safely as possible, transforming the road network in the west.

"We thank the community for their patience and understanding while we get on with this important work to significantly improve Victoria's transport network."

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