

Media Release

The Hon Melissa Horne MP
Minister for Ports and Freight
Minister for Roads and Road Safety
Minister for Health Infrastructure



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GETTING VICTORIANS HOME SAFE THIS LONG WEEKEND

The Allan Labor Government is encouraging all drivers to drive safely on the state's roads this weekend – by managing fatigue and driving to conditions.

The return of Transport Accident Commission's (TAC) fatigue campaign and "Pause Stop" activation is timely ahead of a busy weekend on our roads, especially in regional Victoria where TAC will setup for drivers to rest and recharge.

This year's campaign follows a tragic year on Victoria's roads with 59 people having lost their lives on Victoria's roads so far this year.

Driving while tired contributes 16-to-20 per cent of fatal crashes on Victorian roads each year and accounts for approximately 25 per cent of road trauma injuries at The Alfred and Royal Melbourne hospitals.

The TAC will be relaunching its hard-hitting fatigue campaign, *'Driving Tired? Wake up to yourself'*, across a range of channels starting this weekend and throughout peak travel periods in coming months.

Alongside the roadside Pause Stop activation in Drouin and VTIC activation in Port Fairy on 10 March, the TAC has partnered with the Victorian Tourism Industry Council (VTIC) to establish 15 Pause Stop locations within Visitor Information Centres across the state.

The Allan Labor Government has recently launched its second Road Safety Action Plan which will deliver life-saving road safety infrastructure and strengthen enforcement efforts over the next four years to reduce road trauma.

More than \$1.1 billion is being invested until 2028 by the Labor Government, including \$350 million in new initiatives in the updated plan to help prevent serious crashes to keep Victorians safe.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Roads and Road Safety, Melissa Horne

"As you prepare to travel on the state's roads this long weekend, make safety a priority – slow down, drive to the conditions, and don't get distracted."

"Road safety is a shared responsibility, and we all have a role to play in making sure everyone gets home safely."

Quotes attributable to Transport Accident Commission CEO Tracey Slatter

"Driving while fatigued doesn't just put you at risk – it endangers everyone else on the road. When we're tired, our ability to react and make safe choices is severely compromised."

"We're asking all Victorians to stay alert and make choices that keep themselves and others safe. Get a good night's sleep before driving, allow plenty of travel time, and take regular breaks to stay alert."