Media Release

Gabrielle Williams MP

Minister for Transport Infrastructure Minister for Public and Active Transport



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EXTRA SERVICES, EXTENDED FREE TRAM ZONE FOR FOOTY AND THE SHOW

The Allan Labor Government is extending the Free Tram Zone and delivering additional services for the AFL Grand Final and the Melbourne Royal Show – making it easier for more families to enjoy the events they love.

From Wednesday, 24 September the Free Tram Zone will be extended to the MCG along routes 48, 70 and 75 – giving passengers better access to head to the Footy Festival at Yarra Park.

With fans set to flock to support their team at the AFL Grand Final Parade on Friday, all public transport will run to a Saturday timetable with 47 train services added to the network and extra trams will run.

On Grand Final Day, 60 extra train services across metropolitan lines will be added, with 18 services running before the first bounce and 42 after the final siren.

Extra trams will operate on Route 48 along Collins St and Routes 70 and 75 along Flinders Street, dedicated tram shuttle services will also run back and forth between Flinders Street Station and the MCG and 11 additional services also added on the V/Line network – to help Cats supporters get to and from the game from Geelong and Ballarat.

While many footy fans flock to the MCG, more than 450,000 Victorians are expected to visit the Melbourne Royal Show to soak up the entertainment, activities and showbags when it opens on Thursday, 25 September.

To help more families get to and from the show easier and faster, more than 100 extra train services will be running every day departing Flinders Street every 10-15 minutes from platforms 8, 9 and 10 from 9:10am.

The last train from the Showgrounds departs at 10:40pm on weekdays and 10:30pm on weekends, with extra tram services for Route 57 which travel between Elizabeth Street and the Showgrounds.

Passengers can plan their journey by visiting <u>ptv.vic.gov.au</u> or <u>vline.com.au</u>.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Public and Active Transport Gabrielle Williams

"With so much on offer for families and footy fans, we're providing more services across the network this week to make sure families spend more time doing the things they love."

"We encourage everyone to plan ahead and take public transport to the 'G or the Show."

Quotes attributable to Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos

"Grand Final week and the Melbourne Royal Show are two of Victoria's biggest traditions – bringing hundreds of thousands of people together and showcasing why Melbourne is the nation's sporting and events capital."

"By making it easier and more affordable for fans and families to get there, we're ensuring everyone can be part of the excitement."

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