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MINISTER FOR REGIONAL
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**THE HON MELISSA HORNE
MINISTER FOR ROADS AND ROAD
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MEDIA RELEASE

IMPROVED CONNECTIONS ALONG THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD

The Albanese and Allan Labor governments are improving safety and connections along the Great Ocean Road between Lorne to Apollo Bay, with major works complete to replace the Wye River Bridge.

The \$14.86 million project is jointly funded, with the Federal Government contributing \$4.05 million under the Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program and the Victorian Government contributing \$10.81 million.

Built in the 1950s, the original Wye River Bridge has now been replaced with a new 50-metre long, triple-span reinforced concrete bridge.

The existing bridge was demolished to make way for the new structure which includes a wider bridge deck, shoulders and a footway on the ocean side of the structure.

These key features will future-proof the bridge, boosting safety and reliability for all motorists and pedestrians.

With the completed works, the bridge will be capable of carrying an increased load capacity of more than 100 tonnes, meeting current and future traffic demands.

It will also be better protected against high tides and storms with improved drainage facilities and an additional 600 millimetres of clearance over the existing bridge.

The Great Ocean Road is a critical link frequently travelled by locals and tourists, connecting cities and towns from Torquay to Allansford.

The new bridge will support increased freight and vehicle movements along this significant route.

For more information, visit transport.vic.gov.au/news-and-resources/projects.

Quotes attributable to Federal Minister for Regional Development and Local Government, Kristy McBain MP:

“The Albanese Government is committed to delivering for regional Victoria under the Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program.

“Future-proofing important connections such as the Wye River Bridge is important to keeping our economy and freight moving.

“Whether it’s local roads or key links along the Great Ocean Road, we are investing in regional Victoria’s road network right across the state.”

Quotes attributable to Federal Labor Senator for Victoria, Raff Ciccone:

“The new bridge at Wye River is a major investment in safer, more reliable travel along the Great Ocean Road in Wannon.

“The Albanese Government is committed to working with the Victorian Government to deliver lasting infrastructure that supports the local community and boosts tourism.”

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

“These improvements will ensure a safe and secure river crossing for locals and visitors to the area.

“We’ve improved pedestrian safety and access with a new, extended, wider path, higher guardrail and crash barriers, while the new wider shoulders across the bridge in both directions will improve safety and access for cyclists.”

Quotes attributable to Victorian MP Member for Western Victoria, Gayle Tierney:

“It’s fantastic that this project is now complete – it’s a great outcome for our coastal communities and for everyone who travels this beautiful stretch of the Great Ocean Road.”

“This new bridge will make travel safer, support local jobs and keep our region moving well into the future. I want to thank the local community for their patience and support during these vital works.”

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