



**THE HON KRISTY MCBAIN MP  
MINISTER FOR REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT, LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT AND TERRITORIES**

**THE HON MELISSA HORNE MP  
MINISTER FOR ROADS AND ROAD  
SAFETY**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **SMOOTHER JOURNEYS ACROSS RAINBOW CREEK BRIDGE**

The Albanese and Allan Labor governments have improved journeys across the Rainbow Creek Bridge in the Gippsland region, with works now underway on a new replacement bridge.

The new reinforced concrete bridge will replace the original 1947 timber structure, boosting productivity, reducing ongoing maintenance costs, and ensuring reliable connections for more than 3,000 vehicles that use the route each day for commuting, public transport, freight and tourism.

Works will also include the installation of safety barriers and railings, upgraded road surfaces and line markings, as well as new road pavement on approach to the new bridge.

The build will occur to the west of the existing bridge to limit traffic disruption during construction.

The project is funded by \$5 million from the Albanese Government under the Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program and an Allan Labor Government contribution of \$6.25 million.

Construction is expected to be completed in late 2026.

Traffic management will be in place during construction including temporary traffic signals, a 40 km/h speed limit and short closures during specific construction activities.

We ask all road users to be aware of changed traffic conditions and allow extra time when travelling through the area.

For further information, visit [transport.vic.gov.au/news-and-resources/projects/rainbow-creek-bridge-replacement](http://transport.vic.gov.au/news-and-resources/projects/rainbow-creek-bridge-replacement).

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

“The Albanese Government understands the importance of connectivity for communities throughout Gippsland. These works will improve safety for everyone travelling through the region.”

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

“The original bridge over Rainbow Creek has served its purpose well and we’re now securing the safety and future of our roads with the construction of this new route.”

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

“This \$5 million investment from the Albanese Government is about safer, more reliable journeys for the thousands of people who rely on this road every day — whether they’re commuting to work, moving freight, or travelling through Gippsland.

“Replacing this ageing bridge will strengthen a vital local connection and support the region’s economy for decades to come.

**ENDS**

**WEDNESDAY, 21 JANUARY 2026**

**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

**MINISTER MCBAIN – DAVID JEAN, 0467 559 492**

**MINISTER HORNE – ANALISE SHERLOCK, 0407 981 103**