

Media Release

The Hon Jaala Pulford MLC

Minister for Roads

Minister for Road Safety and the TAC

Minister for Fishing and Boating



**DELIVERING
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

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LOCALS TO HAVE SAY ON ROAD SAFETY AT SHEPPARTON FORUM

Residents from north-eastern Victoria will share their ideas and thoughts on how to make local roads safer at tonight's regional road safety forum in Shepparton.

It has been a devastating year on Victoria's roads with over a 50% increase in deaths on our roads to date with the majority of these deaths occurring on regional roads, where 98 people have died.

Last year 20 people died on roads in Shepparton and north-eastern Victoria and a further 162 people were seriously injured.

The forum at the Shepparton RSL, will be attended by road safety experts and state and local government representatives, and has been designed to ensure all who attend will be able to have their say.

In addition to looking at local and regional road safety issues raised by attendees, the forums will invite the community to comment on the four areas that make up the Andrews Labor Government's Towards Zero strategy – safe people, safe roads, safe vehicles and safe speeds.

The first two of the eight forums were held in Ballarat last week and Marysville last night, with community members sharing the experiences and knowledge of their local roads.

The forums follow the Melbourne Road Safety Summit in May, where road safety experts and community leaders gathered to discuss what more could be done to address the horror start to the year on Victoria's roads.

The Government will consider the ideas from the summit and forums as part of the development of the next Victorian road safety strategy.

For more information, visit tac.vic.gov.au/regional-road-safety-forum

Quotes attributable to Minister for Roads, Road Safety and TAC, Jaala Pulford:

"It's been a heartbreaking year so far on our regional and rural roads and we know it's regional Victorians dying on these roads, with more than two thirds of people killed on country Victorian roads within 30km of their home."

"That's why we're working with the locals across the Shepparton region to look at the reasons behind the disproportionate number of country road deaths and how to prevent this senseless loss of life."