

# Project Evaluation Finding

## Strzelecki Highway Overtaking Lane (south of Driffield)

### Project Description

A new overtaking lane was constructed on Strzelecki Highway south of Driffield, aiming to provide formal overtaking opportunities where there was previously no overtaking lane between Morwell and Mirboo North.

### Output

The project delivered an overtaking lane to:

- Reduce driver frustration and allow drivers to safely pass slower vehicles
- Improve road safety on Strzelecki Highway, particularly run-off road or overtaking crashes.

### Cost & Duration

The project cost \$4.04 million (completed 6% under budget) and was delivered four months later than expected.

### Working with others

Regional Roads Victoria gained support from the community and the logging and dairy freight operators during the development of this project.

### Benefits Achieved

This project has contributed to benefits, along with other recent projects on the route that may have contributed to road safety.

#### Improved road safety

- Data shows a 14% decrease in the crash rate between Morwell and Mirboo North (southbound)
- Data shows no 'head on' crashes have occurred between Morwell and Mirboo North (southbound) since the project completion date.

#### Improved travel time

- Travel times travelling southbound show an average decrease in trip time by 18 seconds
- Project has met objective to provide a suitable standard overtaking facility.

#### Increased freight

- Traffic counts show an increase in heavy vehicles travelling southbound on Strzelecki Highway, and this project helps facilitate these movements.

### More Information

For more information please contact:  
[chris.padovan@roads.vic.gov.au](mailto:chris.padovan@roads.vic.gov.au).



Figure 1 – Before



Figure 2 – After