

APPENDIX D: MEDIA RELEASES



Media release

From the Minister for Roads and Ports

Wednesday 14 November, 2007

STUDY INTO OUTER METROPOLITAN RING ROAD GETS UNDERWAY

Minister for Roads and Ports, Tim Pallas, today announced the start of a preliminary planning study into an outer metropolitan transport corridor stretching from Werribee to Mickleham.

Mr Pallas said that while any transport corridor would be a long term project, 20 years from construction, it was important to implement the necessary planning provisions well in advance.

"The start of this planning study demonstrates the Brumby Government's commitment to the long-term transport needs of the state, and was a goal in our 10-year, \$10.5 billion *Meeting Our Transport Challenges Strategy*," Mr Pallas said.

"This planning study represents the first stage in identifying the most suitable transport options, and determining an appropriate route for the corridor.

"It is important that this investigation commences now to ensure coordination with major land use developments around the urban fringe.

"Securing reservations for future transport infrastructure makes its delivery faster, more timely and cost effective when it is finally required."

Mr Pallas said the proposed road link would serve key international transport hubs including Melbourne and Avalon Airports, Port of Geelong and other freight and service economy areas.

"This proposed project would provide a crucial transport link between interstate and major regional destinations and would link residential and employment in growth areas to the north and west of Melbourne," he said.

Mr Pallas said the study, being undertaken by VicRoads will look at a number of factors that may impact on the project, including current and future land use, native flora and fauna, and cultural heritage considerations.

"Much of the planning we are undertaking will take into account a number of potential impacts of any route," Mr Pallas said.

"Part of the investigation will be working with councils along the corridor to ensure that the route integrates with local planning schemes.

"Focus will also be given to environmental concerns, with the area surrounding the proposed Outer Metropolitan Ring Road route being highly environmentally and culturally significant.

VicRoads will establish community and agency reference groups comprising representatives from other government agencies, and local government together with other interested parties to provide further input into the investigation.

Members of the community wanting further information can contact VicRoads on 1300 554 857.

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The Place To Be

Media release

From the Minister for Planning

Tuesday, 19 May, 2009

REVISED INVESTIGATION AREA AND CONSULTATION FOR UGB

The boundary for the western Melbourne investigation area for the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) has been extended as part of the Brumby Government's UGB review.

Planning Minister Justin Madden today said the change to the investigation area had also resulted in a change to the UGB consultation timetable.

"The Brumby Government is taking action to keep Melbourne's housing the most affordable on the eastern seaboard," Mr Madden said.

"In conjunction with the changes to the UGB investigation area, VicRoads is extending its study area for the Outer Metro Ring Transport Corridor in the Rockbank and Werribee areas.

"Today's announcement illustrates how the Brumby Government is better aligning town planning with planning for major transport infrastructure – as we said we would in the Government's \$38 billion Victorian Transport Plan."

Mr Madden said this would allow VicRoads to investigate a broader area, ensuring the best transport route possible can be identified to service this vital growth area.

The extension of Melbourne's west investigation area has also been brought about because of new information on the presence of nationally listed Volcanic Plains Grasslands east of Troups Road, Mt Cottrell.

"We now know the grasslands are not as prolific in this area as originally thought. This allows the Government to consider land use and transport that may be improved by the current investigation area," he said.

Consultation on the revised UGB will now occur from mid-June to mid-July 2009 and all property owners within the Troups Road extension of the western investigation area will be notified that the Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution (GAIC) may apply should their land be included in the UGB.

"This second stage of consultation will allow the public to comment on the proposed UGB changes," Mr Madden said.

It is anticipated that the final boundary will be presented to Parliament in November this year.

Based on Victorian Government population projections, it is estimated 600,000 extra dwellings will be needed in Melbourne over the next 20 years. Almost 316,000 dwellings are anticipated to be in Melbourne's established areas. More than 284,000 dwellings are anticipated to be in Melbourne's growth areas.

The investigation into new growth areas will resolve a number of issues including land supply, ensuring well-planned communities with local employment, and the protection of environmental assets.

For further details go to www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/planning or www.gaa.vic.gov.au

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