

Media Release

The Hon Melissa Horne MP
Minister for Casino, Gaming and Liquor Regulation
Minister for Local Government
Minister for Ports and Freight
Minister for Roads and Road Safety



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SMOOTHER JOURNEYS ON THE WESTERN HIGHWAY

The Allan Labor Government is ensuring one of the state's busiest freight and travel corridors can continue to support western Victoria's rapidly-growing population and the region's agriculture and freight sector.

More than \$9 million worth of major repairs have been completed on Western Freeway, with 50,000 m2 of asphaltting between Hopetoun Park and Leigh Creek, and Gordon and Myrniong now finished.

These repairs mean smoother journeys for the more than 27,000 drivers who use the corridor every day, which serves as a vital link between western Victoria's growing communities.

More work is on the way for the Western Highway as well, with crews on the ground starting on a series of major repairs between Ballarat and Beaufort.

Crews are on-site at multiple locations along an 8.3km section of the highway between Avenue Road, Burrumbeet and Black Bottom Road east of Trawalla, with reduced speeds and traffic management in place for the safety of roadworkers and the whole community.

The Western Highway is a significant freight route for farmers and manufacturers from Horsham, Ballarat, Bacchus Marsh and Melton to get their goods to market, supporting the movement of tens of thousands of trucks and other heavy vehicles each day.

Right across Victoria, crews are continuing to rebuild and repair arterial roads thanks to an unprecedented \$6.6 billion investment in road maintenance over 10 years.

This includes \$964 million invested as part of the *Victorian Budget 2024-25*.

Quote attributable to Minister for Roads and Road Safety Melissa Horne

"More than 27,000 drivers rely on the Western Highway each and every day – that's why we're delivering the works needed to maintain it now and into the future."

Quote attributable to Member for Eureka Michaela Settle

The Western Highway is one of our state's busiest freight and travel routes and these works mean getting produce to market faster, a smoother ride for workers and for families."

Quote attributable to Member for Ripon Martha Haylett

"I'm hearing from locals every day how important these works are, and I'm glad that work is underway between Ballarat and Beaufort."