

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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MAKING OUR ROADS SAFER FOR PEDESTRIANS

The Allan Labor Government is making it safer for Victorians to walk to school and get to major events – with almost 30 safety upgrades to make some of our busiest roads safer.

Victoria has seen a spike in pedestrian fatalities this year with 26 pedestrians losing their lives on Victorian roads – up 62 per cent on the same time last year. Failing to give way by both drivers and pedestrians has been attributed to the majority of pedestrian deaths this year.

The MCG will be one of dozens of sites right across the state that will be made safer for pedestrians as part of the \$23 million package.

Averaging more than 60,000 people during a weekend AFL match, and up to more than 100,000 during major events, the lack of pedestrian crossings at the MCG may have contributed to the 207 crashes involving pedestrians that occurred in the East Melbourne and Jolimont precinct within the five-year period ending June 2021.

An investment of \$1.25 million in East Melbourne will deliver zebra crossings with speed humps and reduced road width at five sites across the suburb – reducing the risk of crashes in intersections which see large volumes of pedestrian traffic.

Pedestrian crossings, zebra crossings with speed humps and raised intersections will be installed as part of the safety package, at the Dandenong Market precinct, at busy intersections in Brunswick West and Woodend, as well as in Mildura, Ararat, Ocean Grove, Bacchus Marsh and Bendigo.

The Labor Government has worked with local councils to decide which projects should be delivered with council nominating areas or on sections of road in their community as high risk to pedestrians in their community.

The package supports Victoria's *Road Safety Strategy 2021-2030* which aims to significantly reduce road trauma and halve road deaths by 2030.

Quote attributable to Minister for Roads and Road Safety Melissa Horne

"We've seen too many pedestrians lose their lives on our roads this year. This investment will ensure we see more zebra crossings, raised intersections and pedestrian crossings where we need them to keep Victorians safe."

Quote attributable to Head of Road Safety Victoria Marcelo Vidales

"Sharing the road safely is everyone's responsibility and it's important to remember that road trauma is preventable. We all need to behave responsibly regardless of the way we chose to travel."

Quote attributable to Transport Accident Commission CEO Tracey Slatter

"Investing in road safety infrastructure is one of the most effective ways we can protect our vulnerable road users like pedestrians, ultimately saving lives and preventing serious injuries."