



Media release

From the Minister for Roads and Ports

Thursday 8 November, 2007

IMPROVED FACILITIES FOR CYCLISTS AT MORDIALLOC BRIDGE

Minister for Roads and Ports, Tim Pallas today announced changes to the Mordialloc Creek Bridge design to improve facilities for cyclists.

Mr Pallas said the bridge would be 3.9 metres wider than originally planned, allowing for wider footpaths and kerbside lanes.

"The footpath and shared use paths will be 2.8 metres wide on one side, and 5 metres on the other side. The wider kerbside lanes will cater for cyclists," Mr Pallas said.

"This will also allow us to retain the three access lanes on the bridge for the duration of construction.

"Bicycle Victoria and the City of Kingston have lobbied for better on-road bicycle facilities, and with the expanded bridge, we're delivering on their concerns."

Mr Pallas also praised local MPs Jenny Lindell and Janice Munt for recommending that the widened section of bridge be kept permanently.

"The structure planned to be used during construction of the Mordialloc Creek Bridge will become part of the permanent structure," Mr Pallas said

"It is structurally and physically similar to the permanent section of the bridge, and the design will allow it to be integrated into the final product."

Ms Lindell, Member for Carrum said that as a result of this improvement to the bridge, there will be some re-designing of the structure.

"These changes will benefit the whole community, making it safer for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists," she said.

Ms Munt, Member for Mordialloc, said "The Nepean Highway is a major route and this project would ensure it can continue to meet the mobility requirements of a growing city."

These changes could result in some minimal delays in completing the project, however works are expected to remain close to the original timetable.

Mr Pallas said that the Mordialloc Creek project would widen the existing bridge from two lanes to four.

"Locals and those who frequently drive through the area know this bridge has traditionally been a traffic bottleneck," Mr Pallas said.

"The Mordialloc Creek project is part of the Victorian Government's \$5 billion *Linking Victoria* program - linking communities and fostering employment and economic development by improving our road, rail and port networks."

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