



Office of the Minister for Roads and Ports

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Our Ref:

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Dear Mr Mowatt

CALDER ACTION GROUP - FUNDING FOR CALDER PARK DRIVE INTERCHANGE

I refer to your letter dated 5 January 2010, on behalf of the Calder Action Group, jointly addressed to the Premier of Victoria, John Brumby MP, and the Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, Anthony Albanese MP. As the matter raised falls within the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Roads and Ports, Tim Pallas MP, it has been referred to me for response.

As you have previously been advised, the Brumby Government has identified safety and capacity improvements on the Calder Freeway as a priority. These include grade separated interchanges at Kings Road, Sunshine Avenue and Calder Park Drive, as well as widening of the freeway between the Western Ring Road and the Melton Highway and implementation of freeway management systems.

These improvements were included in the Victorian Government's *National Transport Links – Growing Victoria's Economy* document, the State's road and rail submission to the Australian Government under the Nation Building Program (formerly AusLink 2).

As you are aware, this submission led to the Victorian Government allocating \$25 million over four years for construction of the Kings Road interchange and the Australian Government allocating up to \$30 million as part of its Nation Building Program. The Victorian Government also committed funding for the duplication of Kings Road to provide improved local access to the growing suburbs south of the freeway.

Preconstruction works have commenced on the Kings Road interchange, with major construction to start by the end of 2010.

"The Brumby Government will continue to advocate for funding for further improvements to the Calder Freeway including construction of the Calder Park Drive interchange, which was included in Victoria's recent priority project submission to Infrastructure Australia."

Thank you for your support and advocacy for the Calder Park Drive interchange. If you would like to obtain further information on this matter, Mr Vince Punaro of VicRoads Metropolitan North West Region (Tel: 9313 1270) would be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

Cressida Wall
Chief of Staff

