

Calder Action Group Inc

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Joanne Duncan MLA

Hon Wendy Lovell MLC

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Calder Action Group Inc. - Calder Park Drive Planning

In March this year we wrote to Federal and State authorities regarding early planning for the Overpass at the Calder Park Drive intersection with the Calder Highway. We are still awaiting a firm and tangible response to our appeal and seek to further emphasize the safety implications of neglect of this critical project.

As long ago as May 2006, Maria Vamvakinou MP, Federal Member for Calwell, in reference to a petition on this matter, wrote:

“As I have mentioned before in this place, the Calder Highway, which services the people of Sunbury, is a major regional highway that serves as a major freight route and a commuter route into the city. As a regional highway, it is vital to the regional development. However, its increasing use has put pressure on commuters because it has become seriously congested, therefore dangerous, between the intersections of Kings Road, Sunshine Avenue and Calder Park Drive. There have been a record number of serious traffic accidents, which have resulted in deaths, injuries and endless delays for motorists trying to go about their daily lives and business”.

The position of the Keilor section of the Calder Highway has improved very little since then. The Kings Road Overpass will be started shortly. However traffic continues to grow as new areas in Melton Shire, Hume City and Macedon Ranges develop and Calder users are continually faced with serious traffic hazards at all the at-grade intersections.

We believe it is imperative that a start be made on further projects to eliminate these major hazards on an otherwise admirable Freeway to the North-West of Victoria.

Our proposal, contained in a letter to the State and Federal Governments dated 9 March 2010 that special funding for interim work to prepare the Calder Park Drive Overpass Project for early tendering in 2014/15, remains unanswered by either jurisdiction. We have sent a follow up enquiry to pursue this matter, copy attached.

We believe that only early commitment to the Calder Park Drive Project will indicate the sincerity of, particularly, the Victorian State Government to this safety issue.

As a community group we urge all local members and new candidates to take a determined approach in the forthcoming campaigns for the State election to have this matter satisfactorily addressed.

Yours sincerely,

Russell S. Mowatt
President,
Calder Action Group Inc.

For information:-

Hon Brendan O'Connor MHR

Maria Vamvakinou MHR

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