

Intersection work: Efficiency bonus to boost safety

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DELAHEY Action Group secretary David Anderson says he's pleased the intersection of Kings Road and the Calder Freeway at Taylors Lakes will be completed ahead of schedule and under budget.

But he wants left-over funding to be used to remove a "dangerous" roundabout at the intersection of Taylors and Kings roads.

Federal Infrastructure and Transport Minister Anthony Albanese visited the new intersection last week and announced it will be completed next month, six months ahead of schedule.

As part of the project, Kings Road is being upgraded and extended as a four-lane divided road through to the freeway.

Mr Albanese said the expertise of the builder, BMD Constructions, and the efforts of its workforce meant the upgrade would cost taxpayers much less than the budgeted \$62 million.

He said the works would be finished before Christmas and money saved on the project would be used to make safety improvements at the intersection of Calder Freeway and Sunshine Avenue.

But Mr Anderson said there was a desperate need for traffic lights to be installed at the intersection of Taylors and Kings roads.

"The Taylors-Kings roads intersection has been ignored for too long and it's the only intersection on Kings Road without traffic lights," he said.

"People who live close to the roundabout are afraid to travel to the Delahey Village shopping centre because it's so dangerous.

"So many cars use the intersection and traffic congestion at the roundabout will only get worse when the new Kings Road-Calder Freeway interchange is finished."

Calder Action Group president Russell Mowatt said he was delighted the new interchange was ahead of schedule.

He called on the state and federal governments to commit funding for a new Calder Park Drive and Calder Freeway interchange.

"We need more funding to improve roads in the north-west region and our long-term goal is to get funding for the Calder Park Drive and Calder Freeway interchange."

VicRoads project director John Moylan said the

Calder Freeway-Sunshine Avenue works would be implemented as an interim step as part of a longer-term strategy to improve Calder Freeway safety between Keilor and Diggers Rest, which includes planning a future interchange at Calder Park Drive.



Ahead of schedule: Russell Mowatt at the intersection of Kings Road and the Calder Freeway.