

Media release



FROM THE MINISTER FOR ROADS AND PORTS

DATE: Thursday, June 12, 2008

NEW BYPASS TO REDUCE WILLIAMSTOWN ROAD TRUCK TRAFFIC

Port Melbourne residents will enjoy reduced traffic and congestion on local roads with the opening of the new Plummer Street Local Truck bypass, Roads and Ports Minister Tim Pallas said today.

Mr Pallas said the new \$19.2 million Plummer Street Local Truck bypass would provide trucks and through traffic with a new, direct connection to the West Gate Freeway.

“The Brumby Government is taking action to improve the road network and this new bypass will provide better infrastructure for the freight industry and a better local network for residents,” Mr Pallas said.

“The bypass will provide the road transport industry with a more efficient route for moving freight through the area.

“The new route will significantly improve freight travel times and help reduce costs for the road transport industry and its customers.

“Diverting trucks to the new route, away from local roads like Williamstown Road and Todd Road, will also result in less traffic and truck noise for local residents.

“This project is a win-win situation for everyone, cut travel times and costs for industry and making our local roads safer.”

For the bypass project, Prohasky Street has been extended north from Plummer Street and connected to the existing freeway entry ramp near the Shell-KFC Service Centre.

Works also included new traffic lights on Plummer Street at Prohasky Street, Salmon Street, Graham Street, and at the Todd Road connection.

Mr Pallas said Plummer Street was upgraded and strengthened to ensure it

could cater for increased truck traffic through the industrial precinct.

“Traffic lights at Williamstown Road and Graham Street have been reconfigured to give greater priority for traffic accessing the bypass,” Mr Pallas said.

Member for Albert Park, Martin Foley MP welcomed the completion of the bypass route which was first identified in the 2001 Webb Dock/Port Melbourne traffic study.

“This initiative is an excellent outcome for our local community,” Mr Foley said.

“It will improve liveability for residents on Williamstown Road and surrounding streets, by decreasing the number of trucks passing by their front door each day. “

Fulton Hogan Pty Ltd was VicRoads contractor for the \$19.2 million Plummer Street Local Truck Bypass.

Works began in January 2007 and have been completed within budget.