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Media release

Brimbank celebrates \$100M towards fixing the Calder

Brimbank Council is celebrating a \$50 million commitment from the State Government towards upgrading the Calder Freeway between Sunbury and the M80, unveiled in today's State Budget announcement.

The announcement responds to Brimbank's campaign calling on the State and Federal governments to Fix the Calder – and matches the Federal Government's \$50 million commitment.

The combined \$100 million commitment is an essential first step towards fixing the Calder and will fund the planning stages of targeted upgrades, including improvements to safety and capacity at the Calder Park Drive intersection.

Brimbank Council applauded State and Federal governments for responding to community concerns and taking this significant step.

Brimbank Council's 'Fix the Calder' campaign has called for construction of a full diamond interchange at the intersection of the Calder Freeway and Calder Park Drive, to bring this section up to freeway standard.

The campaign also calls for works to:

- Upgrade the Calder Freeway between the Western Ring Road (M80) and the Melton Highway to bring it up to freeway standard, including:
 - adding lanes from Keilor Park Drive to Melton Highway
 - widening the Maribyrnong River Bridge
- Remove the level crossing of the Sunbury train line on Calder Park Drive
- Duplicate Calder Park Drive between the Calder Freeway and the Melton Highway.

To find out more, visit fixthecalder.brimbank.vic.gov.au

Please attribute quotes to Brimbank Mayor Cr Ranka Rasic:

"Brimbank Council is thrilled that State and Federal governments are investing in the planning stages of these essential upgrades to deliver safer road connections for everyone travelling on the Calder.

"This is a hugely significant and very welcome first step towards fixing one of the most dangerous roads in Victoria, and providing better transport access for commuters and residents in Brimbank and neighbouring areas.

"Through our 'Fix the Calder' campaign we have worked hand in hand with community groups, local MPs, neighbouring Councils and concerned residents to advocate for real change.

"We are incredibly grateful that State and Federal governments have heard our voices – and we look forward to working closely with the relevant departments on further development of these plans.

"I would also like to thank our campaign supporters, including local MPs and partners in neighbouring municipalities, along with the community groups and hundreds of local residents who signed our petition to 'Fix the Calder'.



"Our community can now be confident, with this \$100m commitment to essential planning work, that further announcements will be made in future budgets to finally 'Fix the Calder'.

"For those who travel along the Calder every day, and see congestion, delays and accidents, this is a huge win. We thank you for your support and we will continue to work closely with stakeholders as further details emerge."

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