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Media release

Brimbank celebrates another win for fixing the Calder

Brimbank Council is celebrating another milestone in its campaign to Fix the Calder – after the State Government announced it would remove the Calder Park Drive level crossing on the Sunbury line.

The level crossing removal will address one of the key asks of Brimbank’s Fix the Calder campaign.

The Calder Park level crossing causes significant delays on the Calder Freeway – with traffic on Calder Park Drive backing up along the exit ramp and onto freeway when the boom gates are down.

The announcement follows the State Government’s \$50 million commitment towards upgrading the Calder Freeway between Sunbury and the M80, unveiled in the May State Budget – in addition to 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 upgrade.

Brimbank Council applauded the level crossing announcement as another significant milestone responding to community concerns about this dangerous stretch of freeway.

In addition to the level crossing removal, Council’s Fix the Calder campaign calls 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
- Duplicate Calder Park Drive between the Calder Freeway and the Melton Highway.

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

The announcement also follows Brimbank’s previous successful advocacy for removal of level crossings– with the State Government now having commenced works to remove level crossings on Robinsons Road (Deer Park), Mount Derrimut Road (Deer Park), and Fitzgerald Road (Sunshine West). These add to the removal of the level crossings on Main Road (St Albans), Furlong Road (St Albans) and Melton Highway (Sydenham).

Please attribute quotes to Brimbank Mayor Cr Ranka Rasic:

“Brimbank Council would like to thank the State Government and local Member Natalie Hutchins MP for this significant announcement.

“Removing the Calder Park Drive level crossing is another huge win for our community and our ‘Fix the Calder’ campaign.

“With 11,000 vehicles going through the crossing each day, this will save travel time for local residents and commuters.



“Importantly, it will also help improve traffic flow on the Calder Freeway – where traffic frequently comes to a standstill on the Calder Park Drive exit when the boom gates are down.

“The Calder Freeway has been identified as one of Victoria’s most dangerous roads, and work is urgently needed to improve safety, reduce congestion and provide better access and connections to cater for population and freight growth.

“Our ‘Fix the Calder’ campaign has shown that with good advocacy, working together with community groups, local MPs, neighbouring Councils, and concerned residents, we can secure great outcomes for the Brimbank community.

“I would encourage everyone who uses the Calder Freeway to show your support for the campaign and sign the petition at fixthecalder.brimbank.vic.gov.au because our fight is not over and more needs to be done to make this stretch of road safe for our commuters.

“We look forward to working closely with the State Government to ensure that planned improvements address community concerns.”

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