

Minister for Public Transport Minister for Roads

ADQ000350 (File No.: BN004556)

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Dear Ms Green Monrelle

EPPING ROAD, EPPING

I refer to an Adjournment Debate matter you raised on 21 February 2013, regarding funding for the duplication of Epping Road and the signalisation of its intersection with Findon Road, Epping.

You previously raised this matter by petitions tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 13 December 2012 and on 29 March 2012, and I refer you to my responses dated 4 February 2013 and 30 April 2012.

The Victorian Government is delivering on its commitment to develop a new Metropolitan Planning Strategy to identify and accommodate population growth and demographic change, transport and infrastructure needs, employment locations, social and community needs and the tools required to manage growth.

The Victorian Government recognises the development needs of the Epping area and the need for transport infrastructure to facilitate such development. Funding of \$7.5 million has been provided to widen Cooper Street between Edgars Road and the Hume Freeway. This project will improve travel times on this key east-west route and provide better access for the community and industry to the new Melbourne Wholesale Markets. Construction is scheduled to be completed in early 2014.

I acknowledge the concerns of residents with traffic congestion during the recent fire in North Epping. VicRoads is continuing to work on identifying requirements for the duplication of Epping Road between Memorial Avenue and Findon Road. Duplication of this section of Epping Road includes the replacement of the roundabout at the Epping Road intersection with traffic signals. There are no plans to replace the roundabout with traffic signals prior to duplication.

As previously advised, in the context of the above investigations, this proposal will be considered for future funding.

Yours sincerely

Hon Terry Mulder MP Minister for Roads

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State Government Victoria