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Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change
Minister for Suburban Development8 Nicholson Street
East Melbourne, Victoria 3002
Telephone: 03 9637 9504
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Chief Executive Officer
City of Melton
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MELTON VIC 3337

Ref: MIN029060



Dear Mr Tori

GROWTH AREAS INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTION FUND

Thank you for your letters of 4 April 2017 to the Minister for Planning and I, and your letter to the Premier of 24 March 2017 about the Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution (GAIC) program. I am responding on behalf of the government and apologise for the delay in our response as we finalised the 2017-18 GAIC funding round.

The Minister for Planning and I released the 2017-18 GAIC funding guidelines with a call for applications from departments for projects that support the needs of Melbourne's growing communities. Melton's list of priority projects was shared with the relevant Victorian Government departments as they prepared applications and I acknowledge your strong support for GAIC funding to be directed to the construction of the Toolern Railway Station.

I am pleased to advise that the Andrew's Labor Government has approved \$33.7 million in GAIC funding to build the new Toolern Railway Station. The station will support the suburb which is expected to grow from the current population of around 1,000 to 55,000 in the coming decades. It is anticipated around 2,000 passengers will use the station from 2021. The delivery will coincide with the Ballarat Line Upgrade project, maximising opportunities for efficiencies for both projects, while minimising disruptions on the Ballarat Line.

Since 1 July 2016, \$149 million of GAIC funding has been allocated to critical infrastructure projects in growth areas. This includes \$3.2 million to purchase land for the Melton and Hillside ambulance stations, \$6.4 million for the acquisition of land for Taylor's Hill West Secondary College, \$1.45 million for the Caroline Springs Station Bus Access improvements project and \$3.6 million for the land acquisition and construction of the Melton South Ambulance Station. This is in addition to the \$5.0 million contribution to the construction of the Melton Ambulatory Care Centre and \$0.6 million to the signalisation at the Western Freeway and Ferris Road interchange.



For further information, please contact Sara Harbidge, Director, Partnerships and Delivery, Office for Suburban Development, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning on 03 9027 5808 or sara.harbidge@delwp.vic.gov.au.

Thank you again for your letter.

Yours sincerely



Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP
Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change
Minister for Suburban Development

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