



Hon Jacinta Allan MP

Minister for Public Transport
Minister for Major Projects

1 OCT 2018

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Ref: CMIN005081R

Cr Bob Turner
Mayor
City of Melton
PO Box 21
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Dear Mayor

Thank you for your letter of 8 August 2018 regarding the Melbourne airport rail link – Full Business Case Development, and your support on behalf of the City of Melton for the strategic route appraisal for this important project. I apologise for the delay in responding.

The selection of the Sunshine Route, and the Andrews Labor Government's commitment if re-elected to provide up to \$5 billion of funding for an airport link – matching the Commonwealth Government's pledge – enables the next phase of planning to begin.

As you know, Sunshine is a key junction of the rail and road networks connecting the Melton, Wyndham and Sunbury growth areas and the major regional centres of Geelong, Ballarat and Bendigo.

During the preparation of the full Business Case we will continue to investigate opportunities for the airport rail link to integrate with any future rail investments to the growth areas of Melton and Wyndham and regional cities including Ballarat and Geelong.

Meanwhile, the Ballarat Line Upgrade, currently well-advanced, will pave the way for electrification of the line to Melton.

Melbourne is expected to be home to almost 8 million people by 2051 and the overall population of Victoria will rise to 10.1 million. The projected growth of the Melton area highlights the need for a rail network with the connectivity to handle this demand.

The full Business Case for the airport rail link is expected to be completed in 2019-20 and delivery of the project is targeted to start in 2022, subject to the required approvals.

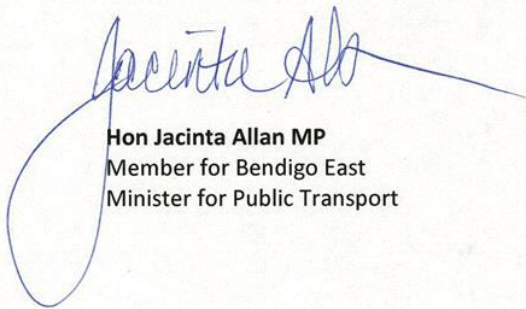


The Melbourne airport rail link won't simply funnel tourists and business people between the CBD and the airport. It needs to be much more – and it will be under a re-elected Andrews Labor Government.

It will take pressure off the roads and can transform the way people live, work and travel right across Victoria.

I trust this information is of use. Thank you once again for taking the time to write to me.

Yours sincerely



Hon Jacinta Allan MP
Member for Bendigo East
Minister for Public Transport