

A vibrant, safe and liveable city accessible to all



MEDIA RELEASE

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Jobs, economy and roads: Council's calls on the state and federal governments

A strong focus on local jobs creation and economic recovery is key to Melton City Council's submissions to the state and federal budgets.

Council has outlined a list of key priorities such as construction of the Western Intermodal Freight Terminal (WIFT), fully funding Melton Hospital, upgrades to major roads including the Western Highway and Melton Highway, the Outer Metropolitan Ring project, electrification of the Melton Line, higher education, and more.

City of Melton Mayor Cr Goran Kesic said jobs, economic recovery, and better transport would be key to building a strong future in the City of Melton.

"Our population set to triple to almost half a million people in the next 30 years. While this presents challenges, it also provides us with an opportunity to set a benchmark for creating a liveable city that keeps pace with growth," Cr Kesic said.

"We have a great opportunity to create easy and accessible lifestyles in the outer west, where people can work and enjoy family time close to home.

"Our budget submissions centre on investment in key major projects that will boost our economy and create significant long-term jobs.

"A freight precinct in the west, major road upgrades, and fully funding the Melton Hospital will have wide-reaching impacts, especially during a time of economic recovery.

"Partnering with the State and Federal governments on our jobs and investment plans will help create 120,000 jobs and return \$19 billion annually to the economy.

"In recently years, the state and federal governments have invested in key transformational projects in the City of Melton, and it's critical that these partnerships continue as we become Melbourne's fastest growing municipality."

In its submissions, council is seeking funding from both levels of government on the Western Intermodal Freight Precinct; the Outer Metropolitan Ring, Western Highway upgrade, public transport improvements including the electrification of the Melton Line, Melton Hospital works (beyond initial planning and early works), and TAFE and tertiary education.

Council is also seeking additional commitments from the state government for the Melton Highway upgrade, training and education, allied health, prevention of family violence, and more.

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ENDS

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