



Heidi Victoria MP

Member for Bayswater District
Shadow Minister for Arts & Culture
Shadow Minister for Tourism & Major Events
Shadow Minister for Aboriginal Affairs



2/40 Station Street, Bayswater. 3153
Phone: 97291622 Fax: 9729 0912
email: heidi.victoria@parliament.vic.gov.au
website: www.heidivictoria.com.au

MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 2 February 2016

Mountain Hwy in Bayswater set to lose two lanes and create traffic chaos.

As part of the Bayswater level crossing removal project, Mountain Hwy will be reduced from three lanes down to two. The lanes will be cut between the Valentine St and High St intersection with Mountain Highway, and Jim Abernethy Memorial Drive.

Knox council are behind the lane reduction idea, stating it will make the area more pedestrian friendly and accessible to amenities. Vic Roads has now confirmed the lane reduction will go ahead with the lanes being reduced from three to two lanes in each direction from April this year.

Heidi Victoria MP has had numerous discussions with the level crossing removal authority and Knox Council urging them to reconsider the decision.

Ms Victoria is strongly opposed to the idea stating;

“This decision is ill conceived and will only lead to more traffic congestion in Bayswater and surrounding suburbs for future generations”.

“There has been no evidence produced from either Vic Roads or Knox council to demonstrate that traffic will cope with the reduction in lanes. In addition, this will cause more traffic congestion on other major roads including Canterbury Rd and Scoresby Rd. We should be focused on building better roads to accommodate future generations not stifle them”.

“Pedestrian access to the amenities can be incorporated into the project without the need for lane reductions. Removing the lanes only to reinstate them in years to come is a bad decision and one that will ultimately cost taxpayers money”.

Victoria’s peak motoring body the RACV is also critical of the idea. David Jones (RACV managing director) says the idea is “in appropriate’ and “ignores the reality of the transport issues in the area and population growth”.

Media contact: Jessica White 9729 1622, jessica.white@parliament.vic.gov.au