



Jason Wood MP
Federal Member for La Trobe

MEDIA RELEASE

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LABOR REFUSAL TO COME TO THE TABLE ON THE MONASH FREEWAY

In a statement released late last week by Luke Donnellan, Labor State Minister for Roads and Road Safety, it was made clear that the Labor Party refuse to come to the table on the development of the Monash Freeway.

“The ridiculousness of Luke Donnellan coming out and complaining that I am not committed to the Dandenong Ranges is mind-boggling,

“Given Mr Donnellan lives in Fitzroy and doesn’t have to endure the same daily struggles on the Monash Freeway in the way that his constituents do, I guess it makes sense that he doesn’t understand the necessity of this project” said Mr. Wood.

The Coalition Government remains committed to the \$500M delivery of extra lanes on the Monash Freeway between Warrigal Road and Cardinia Road, completing the Beaconsfield Interchange, and extending O’Shea Road to provide an extra access point to the Monash Freeway.

On top of this, the Coalition is also delivering the following major projects to the Dandenong Ranges:

- \$6.5M to restore a Red Rattler and build the Emerald Lake Discovery Centre
- \$1M for stage two of the Emerald-Gembrook Multi-Use Trail
- \$2.5M for the Ridge Walk connecting Upwey/Tecoma to Montrose via Ferny Creek, Sassafras, Olinda, Mount Dandenong, and Kalorama
- \$10M for safety improvements on the Mount Dandenong Tourist Road

“I wrote to Mr. Donnellan about upgrading Mt Dandenong Tourist Road in order to address safety concerns for cyclist and locals. His response was that it was not a priority, which is why I went ahead and committed \$10M.

“Adding to this, State Labor now has \$3.84B of federal funding on the table, but they refuse to start rail and road projects like the Monash and the East West Link. Perhaps it’s Mr. Donnellan who’s got the bird-brained ideas?” said Mr. Wood.