

MEDIA RELEASE

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RCV welcomes funding announcement

Rural Councils Victoria has welcomed the [announcement today](#) of more than \$500 million in spending in non-metropolitan Victoria by the state and federal governments.

The Prime Minister, Scott Morrison said the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments will support construction jobs across Victoria by jointly investing an additional \$525 million to deliver shovel-ready infrastructure projects and **urgent road safety upgrades**.

Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack said the Federal government was providing an additional \$178.2 million towards the **Regional Rail Revival** package in Victoria, bringing the total Australian Government contribution to this project to \$1.8 billion.

An additional \$70.6 million was announced to complete the duplication of the Princes Highway East between Traralgon and Sale.

An additional \$20 million will be put towards safety upgrades at **30 high-speed, high-risk rural intersections** and \$19.5 million towards pedestrian safety upgrades around schools.

About \$10 million will be put towards upgrading the Western Freeway between Woodmans Hill to Dowling Road, Miners Rest.

Rural Councils Victoria Chair Cr Mary-Ann Brown said:

“The announcement goes some way towards meeting the \$4 billion investment that Rural Councils Victoria believes will be needed to ensure rural communities survive and thrive in this post-bushfire, post-COVID-19 world.”

“It is good to see that the state and federal governments are investing in roads and bringing forward capital expenditure investments, which was part of RCV’s COVID-19 platform, which we launched in March.”

“Naturally, we would like to see further investments, including in local roads, rural broadband – to ensure remote communities and families remain connected – as well as continued support for jobs, job creation and rural businesses.”

Media enquiries: Seamus Bradley | seamus@theagendagroup.com.au | 0410 256 902

Claire Sheed-Finck | claire@theagendagroup.com.au | 0401 839 811

About Rural Councils Victoria:

Rural Councils Victoria represents Victoria's rural communities across the state's 38 rural local government areas.

RCV supports and promotes sustainable, liveable, prosperous rural communities. Visit: ruralcouncilsvictoria.org.au