RESPONSE TO PETITION

Petition Number:

637

Petition Sponsored by:

Mr Evan Mulholland MP

Directed to:

Minister for Transport Infrastructure

Tabled on:

5/3/2025

Petition Grievance:

The Petition of the certain citizens of the State of Victoria draws to the attention of the Legislative Council the fact that the residents of Moonee Ponds and Essendon have been ignored in their pleas to have the dangerous and congested level crossings in the area replaced.

Petition Action:

The Petitioners therefore request that the Legislative Council call on the Government to; 1) lower the railway track between Maribyrnong Road and Glenbervie Station, utilize the 'rail--under-road' solution for the dangerous and congested level crossings at Puckle and Park Streets and the dangerous underpass at Mt Alexander Road, 2) release the current plans for dealing with the dangerous and congested level crossings at Puckle and Park Streets as agreed to by cabinet in Feb 2018 (site report) and in March 2021 (initial feasibility assessment) and 3) release all FOI requested data relating to level crossing removal in the Melbourne Metropolitan area which is costing Victoria taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars to stop its release to the public.

Reply:

I thank the Member for Northern Metropolitan Region and his constituents for raising this matter.

The Allan Labor Government has committed to removing 110 dangerous and congested level crossings by 2030. 85 of these level crossings have already been removed including two on the Craigieburn Line, 40 brand new stations have been built, and five stations upgraded around Melbourne.

While the Victorian Liberal Party has previously opposed removing level crossings on the Craigieburn Line, I thank you for your support of the Level Crossing Removal Project and the Allan Labor Government's commitment to remove dangerous and congested level crossings across Melbourne.

While we are currently focussed on the 110 level crossings that have been prioritised for removal, this does not preclude more level crossing removals in future.

Gabrielle Williams MP

Minister for Transport Infrastructure