

Ports and Freight

Melissa Horne MP

Thursday, 21 May 2026



Department
of Transport
and Planning

The Victorian Freight Plan 2025-30: Victoria Delivers

As part of the Victorian Freight Plan 2025-30:

- \$8 million Freight Decarbonisation Co-Investment Program
 - provides grants of up to \$300,000 for small and medium-sized freight businesses
- \$1.5 million Victorian Electric Heavy Vehicle Trial
- Heavy Vehicle Structural Assessment Permit System
 - cutting approval times from up to six months to days



Rail Freight - Port Rail Shuttle Network

Australian and Victorian Government's \$58 million Port Rail Shuttle Network:

- Aims to provide an efficient and cost-effective road alternative from Somerton, Altona and Dandenong South to the Port of Melbourne
- Services already running from the Somerton Terminal will:
 - eventually take 500,000 truck trips off Melbourne's roads - equivalent to 454 million truck kilometres
 - save 451 million litres of fuel and reduce carbon emissions by 189,000 tonnes a year



Investing in rail freight



**\$127
million**

Invested in
2026/27 Victorian Budget

**\$598
million**

Invested in rail freight
since 2020



Boosting reliability and
efficiency

Investing in local ports, piers and jetties

Since 2018, the Victorian Government has invested more than \$165m in local ports, piers and jetties.

\$5.5m in this year's Budget will fund:

- Major maintenance of public piers across Victoria
- Renewal of Navigation Aids to increase public safety and structural integrity



Ports and freight industry keeps Victoria moving

Investing in Ports and Freight:

- Creates jobs
- Improves innovation and technology
- Maintains our strong rail freight network
- Reduces red tape
- Decarbonisation and environmental protection
- Strengthens Victoria's economic future

