RESPONSE TO PETITION

Petition Number: 595

Petition Sponsored by: Evan Mulholland

Directed to: Hon Melissa Horne MP

Tabled on: 13 May 2025

Petition Grievance:

The petition of certain citizens of the State of Victoria draws to the attention of the Legislative Council the ongoing congestion and traffic delays for the Hume Highway, M31, exit ramp to Donnybrook, as well as traffic from Mickleham and Mickleham Business Park. The Donnybrook Road bridge over Hume Highway needs to be upgraded by adding two additional lanes, one on each side, to increase safety, reduce congestion and improve travel time for the Kalkallo and Donnybrook communities.

Petition Action:

The petitioners therefore request that the Legislative Council call on the Government to upgrade the Donnybrook Road bridge over the Hume Freeway by making it a dual lane road in order to meet the public demand of the rapidly growing Kalkallo and Donnybrook communities.

Reply:

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

The Victorian and Australian governments are backing upgrades along Donnybrook Road, to cut congestion and improve safety in Melbourne's growing north.

In the 2022/23 state budget, funding was allocated to progress planning for the Donnybrook Road Upgrade (the Project) between Mickleham Road and Epping Road.

Major Road Projects Victoria (MRPV) is progressing detailed planning work for the Project, with potential options being explored to add more road lanes (including over the Hume Freeway), upgrade intersections, upgrade the Hume Freeway Interchange, remove the Donnybrook Road level crossing, and build cycling and walking paths to improve connectivity. This work builds on the previous planning work undertaken by Transport Victoria.

The community can find more information about the Project by visiting https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/projects/roads/donnybrook-road-upgrades/sections/donnybrook-road-upgrade.

On 24 March 2025, the Australian and Victorian Governments announced a \$125 million investment to transform the roundabout at Donnybrook Road and Mitchell Street, delivering additional lanes and a fully signalised intersection.

This funding will deliver a new bridge over Kalkallo Creek and significantly improve safety in the area, with barriers set to be installed around the intersection, helping to keep motorists and pedestrians safe. The new lanes through the intersection will deliver better access onto the Hume Freeway and reduce travel times.

MRPV is currently progressing planning for the intersection upgrade as it moves towards construction. Key activities underway include detailed traffic analysis and modelling, on-site investigations and developing a detailed project design for construction.

The community can find more information about the intersection upgrade by visiting https://bigbuild.vic.gov.au/projects/roads/donnybrook-road-upgrades/sections/donnybrook-road-and-mitchell-street-intersection-upgrade.

The Victorian and Australian governments are getting on with planning and delivering the infrastructure Victoria needs to support its growing population.

Hon Melissa Horne MP

Minister for Roads and Road Safety