

Rail Investment Welcomed

The Rail Freight Alliance has welcomed the Federal Government's \$2 Billion commitment to establishing a new intermodal terminal for Melbourne.

This is a critical piece of infrastructure for the Melbourne to Brisbane Inland Rail Project, without it the full benefits of this project will not be achieved. This project will require matching funding from the Victorian Government. The Victorian Government budget will be released next week, the Alliance is hopeful that these funding arrangements can be finalised as soon as possible.

Congestion, air quality, the rising cost of Melbourne's tollways and enhancing a livable Melbourne are issues for the Victorian Government. Rail is the sustainable answer to move large volumes of freight through a rapidly growing city and ever-increasing freight task.

Rail Freight Alliance, Chair, Cr. Glenn Milne said, "It is vitally important that all of Victoria can access the new facility and the national rail network. Improving access and capacity from Gippsland, completing the Murray Basin Project to its original scope and maintenance of Victoria's Rail Network are essential in keeping freight moving on rail.

All Victorians need a road system that is safe and fit for purpose. The continued trend of more and bigger trucks does not serve the safety of Victorians, the quality of our road network, nor the ability to ease congestion, improve air quality or enhance our exporters into markets.

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