



Victoria

The Place To Be

Media release

From the Minister for Roads and Ports

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UNIQUE URBAN DESIGN FOR WORLD CLASS WEST GATE FREEWAY

New ramps on the triple-deck Montague Street interchange will pass through two great portals on the upgraded West Gate Freeway – a focal point of the urban design architecture revealed today as part of the Brumby Government's \$1.39 billion M1 project.

Roads and Ports Minister Tim Pallas said the \$9 million urban design architecture on the West Gate Freeway would enhance its visual appeal and help to guide drivers through this busy section of the freeway.

"The Brumby Government is taking action now to improve Victoria's roads, investing in important projects to reduce congestion, create jobs and deliver the best transport network in Australia," Mr Pallas said.

"The largest State-funded road project in Victoria's history, covering the Monash, CityLink and West Gate corridor, will be state-of-the-art and will only add to Melbourne's reputation as a world-class city.

"Two main features of the urban design architecture are the two portals at the Montague intersection and wayfinding walls at the junction between the Bolte Bridge off ramps and the West Gate Freeway.

"The wayfinding walls will be two elongated triangular blocks on the freeway alignment at the Bolte Bridge off ramps to help direct drivers."

Mr Pallas said the two impressive portal structures will be constructed at the Montague Street intersection to cover and visually shield the vertical concrete structures which support the ramps location while providing a marker for freeway traffic.

"The portals have a modern, even futuristic style, consistent with the nature of the Docklands area as a centre of progressive development. When finished, the portal structures will form a magnificent centrepiece to this section of the M1 upgrade," he said.

Mr Pallas said work had already commenced on the Montague portals with the first portal expected to be completed by the end of July and the second by the end of September. Works on the wayfinding walls will start in June and are expected to be completed later this year.

"Melbourne is a world-class city and this unprecedented Victorian road project deserves world-class design," he said.

"Road infrastructure, like the new structures and ramps being built as part of this project, have a huge impact upon the built environment and on road users and the communities who use it or live near it."

Further information on the M1 upgrade can be found at www.m1upgrade.com.au