

INFRASTRUCTURE TRANSFORMATION

Invest in our rail infrastructure to:

- Boost efficiencies of our Freight Network
- Transport workers to and from jobs.



ADVOCACY AGENDA 25/26 PROPOSAL #10:

INFRASTRUCTURE TRANSFORMATION

Latrobe City Council is calling on both state and federal governments to invest in integrated, well-planned public transport infrastructure to boost efficiencies of our freight network, transport workers to and from jobs, and bring visitors to our region.

Latrobe City Council is calling on both state and federal governments to invest in our rail infrastructure and services to improve the accessibility and reliability of the Gippsland train line and expand our rail freight opportunities.

Providing safe, fast, and reliable public transport is vital to local communities. It supports access to essential health, education, and professional services, transports workers to and from jobs, and attracts visitors to our region.

However, public transport does not always provide the support our community needs.

Current services fail to provide good connectivity between Latrobe City and Melbourne, impacting our municipality's ability to access larger centres, attract and retain a new population and workforce, and boost our visitor economy.

A standard train trip from Traralgon to Flinders Street, Melbourne is approximately 2 hours and 15 minutes, double the commute of other regional cities.

Providing express services and duplicating the train line is part of the solution.

This investment will not only diversify our economy but also expand our freight offerings, enhance the functionality of our existing freight infrastructure, and improve the safety of our road network. It is a step towards creating more jobs and fostering economic growth in our region.

Further government investment in several important projects is needed to reduce the community's resilience on vehicle use.

We are calling for:

- Improved passenger services
 To deliver fast efficient and reliable services.
- Infrastructure upgrades
 Duplicate tracks and bridges
 between Bunyip and
 Longwarry to enable more
 reliable service provision.
- Track upgrades Progressively upgrade the track between Traralgon, Sale and Bairnsdale to enhance connectivity.
- Freight passing loop
 Develop a freight passing loop
 at Sale or Wurruk to promote
 efficiency.
- Vorthern track upgrades
 Upgrade the northern tracks to improve travel times and extend track duplication to Morwell.
- Protect freight routes
 Upgrade and maintain routes
 from Gippsland to Melbourne
 Ports and Intermodal Hubs,
 ensuring future demand is met.
 This includes preserving freight
 service 'slots' on the Gippsland
 train line.
- Intermodal freight hub
 Establish a dedicated
 intermodal freight hub to serve
 Gippsland businesses utilising
 the Gippsland train line.