## **Media Release**



## Tom Koutsantonis MP Minister for Transport and Infrastructure

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## Smooth travels ahead with level crossing removals on track

The plan to remove the two level crossings where the Glenelg tramline crosses Marion Road and Cross Road at Plympton has taken a step forward with site investigation works now underway.

These investigative works include drilling for soil samples and groundwater, and will provide important information for the future design of the project.

The removal of the level crossings is part of ongoing efforts to reduce congestion at the crossings and nearby intersections, as well as improving safety for all road users.

The Australian and South Australian governments have jointly (50:50) committed \$400 million towards removing the level crossings, with the Albanese Labor Government committing funding to the project in last night's federal budget.

Almost 50,000 vehicles travel through these crossings every day, while more than 30 trams also pass through during the morning peak. This means that during peak times the boom gates are down for almost 20 minutes each hour. Congestion at these crossings causes significant delays, increased traffic through local streets, an increase in potential accidents as drivers take more risks and delays for public transport.

A planning study has been undertaken to explore how best to remove these level crossings, with further planning continuing. Surveying, service locating and ground investigation work has also commenced.

A separate planning study is also underway to investigate the removal of the level crossing where the Glenelg tramline crosses Morphett Road.

The removal of tram and train level crossings is important for improving safety for road users, and reducing congestion. It makes travel faster and easier for people who use public transport, walk, cycle or drive.

## **Quotes attributable to Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Tom Koutsantonis**

The removal of the tram level crossings on Cross and Marion Roads will reduce congestion and improve safety for everyone who drives, walks, cycles or catches public transport through that area.

The start of site investigations is an important step forward, and shows that we are getting on to deliver this project.

Anybody who's been stuck at the gates when a train or tram passes has that moment of frustration. By separating the road and the track, we'll be making that frustration a thing of the past.

The project will also increase the efficiency of public transport along those routes, cutting travel times and making those services a more attractive option for commuters.

We're very pleased that the Federal Labor Government has honoured its commitment to this important project in last night's budget.