



MEDIA RELEASE

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VTA welcomes Napier Street bridge improvements

A new \$1.2 million [high-tech detection system](#) and associated traffic signage and signalling announced by Victorian Roads Minister Luke Donnellan at the weekend will go a long way toward averting strikes of Footscray's Napier Street bridge by heavy vehicles and other tall vehicles.

"The Victorian Transport Association has for some time been calling for better earlier warning measures to alert drivers of vehicles that exceed the Napier Street bridge height limits to avoid the area," said VTA CEO Peter Anderson.

"We know from previous strikes at Napier Street and other low bridges around Melbourne that smaller rental trucks being driven by inexperienced drivers are often involved in such collisions, typically because GPS mapping technology doesn't factor in vehicle and bridge height.

"All drivers have an obligation to know the height of their vehicles and plan their journeys to avoid routes where they may face obstacles and height restrictions, however the additional detection measures will help to notify drivers that may have inadvertently gone down a road they shouldn't have.

"So, this technology is very much welcomed on a key arterial freight route that is serviced by 20,000 heavy vehicles each day because of the area's proximity to the Port of Melbourne," Mr Anderson said.

The project is part of the Labor Government's Smarter Journeys program, which funds technology that reduces congestion, improve safety and keep traffic flowing on the state's road network.

Works on the project will start next month and are expected to be completed by the end of the year.

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