



MEDIA RELEASE

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VTA wins significant toll concessions on West Gate Tunnel

The Victorian Transport Association has welcomed the Andrews Labor Government's execution of contracts that will enable work to commence on the West Gate Tunnel project, paving the way for an alternative to the aging West Gate Bridge and better heavy vehicle access to the Port of Melbourne.

"The VTA has been working closely with the Victorian Government, West Gate Tunnel operator Transurban and other stakeholders throughout the development of this vital infrastructure project, and we are pleased that with contracts exchanged work can commence early in the new year," said VTA CEO Peter Anderson.

"We are especially pleased that the Government and Transurban have listened and responded to concerns of the VTA and broader transport industry about permanent truck bans on alternative local roads around the port, by providing financial incentives for operators to use the improved West Gate Freeway and the new tunnel.

"These include multi-trip discounts for operators that use the West Gate Freeway more than four times throughout the day, and night time discounts that will see tolls reduced at night by as much as 33 per cent for heavy vehicles," he said.

Under the future tolling regime, the following multi-trip daily discounts will apply:

- 1-4 trips per day charged at normal trip rate;
- Additional 5-8 trips per day charged at 50 percent off the normal trip rate; and
- Ninth and over trips per day free of charge

"For frequent users of the West Gate Freeway, the new tolling regime means they will only pay full tolls on the first four trips each day, with tolls for the following four trips halved, and tolls waived completely on the ninth and higher trips," Mr Anderson said.

Tolls for heavy commercial vehicles have been set at \$14.60 during the day and \$9.75 at night. For high productivity freight vehicles, day time tolls are \$21.90, reducing to \$14.60 at night.

Other incentives include a multi-road toll cap for trucks using CityLink **and** the West Gate Tunnel, with single trip tolls capped at \$27.15 for heavy commercial vehicles and \$40.75 for high productivity freight vehicles.

"We have talked for a long, long time about improving access to the Port of Melbourne via an alternative river crossing, and with contracts now signed for the West Gate Tunnel project's construction we are encouraged that this long overdue piece of infrastructure can finally be built," Mr Anderson said.

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