



Victorian Government Roadmap for Re-opening the Economy

7th September 2020

The Victorian Government yesterday released its [roadmap](#) for re-opening the state's economy as part of a phased withdrawal from the Stage 3 and 4 restrictions that have been in place across Victoria for the past five weeks.

For the freight and logistics industry, the roadmap is remarkably like what the industry has followed all along, in consideration that as an essential service, transport has continued unabated, albeit with businesses having to trade with a COVIDSafe Plan.

The roadmap confirmed transport operators can continue to **remain open with a COVIDSafe Plan**, which is consistent with VTA advocacy in consultations leading up to yesterday's announcements for no changes to freight. This is to ensure the transport industry can support supply chains during the transition and ensure Victorian consumers have access to essential goods.

Please refer to the [bulletin from Freight Victoria](#) for industry specific restrictions for freight and ports, noting that there is some differentiation between metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria. You can also refer to www.vic.gov.au/roadmap for further information on the steps towards fully re-opening the Victorian economy.

The extension of restrictions on retail, hospitality and many other sectors of the economy will be extremely difficult for these businesses to bear. All these businesses are consumers of freight, logistics and transport, and many are customers of our members. To help them through this difficult time, it is essential we support them as best we can by providing them with the reliable and efficient transport services they will continue to need to best service their customers.

In advising the government on re-opening the economy, the VTA has [recommended curfew exemptions on heavy vehicles be extended](#) beyond September 21, when the temporary change to the Road Safety Act is due to expire. We will continue to advocate for this extension so that our industry can service its customers and consumers as we progress through the steps towards the economy re-opening.

We will also advocate for the Victorian Government to provide additional financial support and relief to businesses that have had longer restrictions forced upon them through no fault of their own, to give them – and our broader Victorian economy – the best possible chance of recovering when we reach a new COVID Normal.

Please do not hesitate to contact the VTA if you have any questions or concerns about the roadmap announced by the government.