

# West Tamar Highway Priority Upgrades



## A MAJORITY LIBERAL GOVERNMENT WILL:

- Reconstruct and widen a number of sections along the West Tamar Highway
- Construct overtaking lanes in both directions north of Exeter to the Batman Highway junction
- Construct a left turn acceleration lane for traffic exiting Motor Road
- Reseal and widen road shoulders to provide improved surfaces for cyclists.



## Infrastructure for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

### Improving traffic flow and catering for future development along the West Tamar

Under a majority Hodgman Liberal Government, jobs and population are growing strongly.

There were 1300 jobs created in Launceston and the North-East in the year to October 2017 and there are 1900 more jobs in the region than there were on average during the last year of the former Labor-Green Government.

As jobs are created, more people are making a lifestyle choice to raise families along the beautiful West Tamar.

The entire West Tamar community is reliant on the West Tamar Highway to commute to Launceston, with very few alternative route options in the event of traffic accidents and other interruptions.

The people of the West Tamar tell us their growing commute time threatens their lifestyles and that infrastructure improvements to the West Tamar Highway are needed to cater for the annual increase in traffic.

The Hodgman Government has heard these concerns and we will act.

A re-elected majority Hodgman Liberal Government will invest strongly in the West Tamar Highway to maintain the liveability of communities along its length between Riverside and Greens Beach, by reducing commute times through a more efficient, safer road network.

The West Tamar Highway priority upgrades is a six-point plan that recognises the need to preserve the lifestyle attractions of the West Tamar and its commuter towns.

All these projects will be either completed or substantially commenced during the next term of a re-elected majority Hodgman Liberal Government.

### Relevant Targets

**#34:** Reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries on Tasmania's roads to zero by 2050.

**#40:** Over the next four years, increase the long-term average investment in public infrastructure by 20%.

**#42:** Bring all Tasmania's primary freight and passenger roads up to a minimum three-star AusRAP safety rating by 2040.



## Infrastructure for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

**Projects to be constructed in the next term of a re-elected majority Hodgman Liberal Government**

### **1. Reconstruct and widen the West Tamar Highway between the intersection with Gravelly Beach Road and the northern intersection with Rosevears Drive (\$4m)**

A re-elected majority Hodgman Liberal Government will make safety and amenity improvements to this 700-metre section of the West Tamar Highway to the south of Exeter.

Works will include pavement widening, drainage, access improvements and improved pedestrian access on this narrow section of the Highway.

Timeframe: Works completed in the next term of the re-elected majority Hodgman Liberal Government.

### **2. Reconstruct and widen the West Tamar Highway between the intersections with Atkinson's Road and Waldhorn Drive (\$2.5m)**

This section of the West Tamar Highway underwent upgrades in 2009. However, as identified by the Royal Automobile Club of Tasmania (RACT), further safety upgrades are required.

This project will see the road pavement reconstructed on the hill north of Muddy Creek and a correction of the road shoulder around sections where dropping has occurred.

This project will result in safety and traffic flow improvements for residents of communities including Grindelwald, Exeter, Gravelly Beach, Beaconsfield, Beauty Point, Blackwall, Swan Point, Deviot, Kelso and Greens Beach.

Timeframe: Works completed in the next term of the re-elected majority Hodgman Liberal Government.

## Why Tasmania Needs This

The population of the West Tamar Council area grew by 7 per cent in the 10 years to 2016 and is growing at a long-term compound rate of .5 per cent a year.

One of the key population growth areas is the commuter satellite suburb of Legana and surrounds. The West Tamar Council expects Legana's population to grow by 10,000 people by 2035 with initial development expected at Bulman's Brook, the slopes below Grindlewald and dairy farmland south of the suburb.

This residential development will spark further commercial development such as retail outlets, professional and commercial services and healthcare, according to the Legana Structure Plan commissioned by the West Tamar Council.



## Infrastructure for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

### 3. Improving overtaking opportunities between Exeter and the Batman Highway junction (\$2.5m)

There are currently limited safe overtaking opportunities north of Exeter between the township and the important freight and the junction with the Batman Highway that links to the East Tamar and the heavy industrial zone around Bell Bay.

A re-elected majority Hodgman Liberal Government will provide overtaking opportunities in both directions to provide for safer passing of slow vehicles to improve travel time reliability.

Timeframe: Works completed in the next term of the re-elected majority Hodgman Liberal Government.

### 4. Reseal and widen the West Tamar Highway north of the Batman Highway intersection to Lightwood Hills Road (\$1m)

A re-elected majority Hodgman Liberal Government will bring forward remedial work to correct the Highway's shoulders through this section, as well as address a number of identified road-sealing issues.

Timeframe: Commence design immediately and complete works by 2019.

### 5. Construct a left-turn acceleration lane at the Motor Road / West Tamar Highway junction (\$500,000)

A re-elected majority Hodgman Liberal Government will construct a left-turn acceleration lane for traffic entering the West Tamar Highway from Motor Road, the main access road for Deviot.

This project will provide safety and amenity benefits for residents of Deviot who currently need to stop at the intersection before entering the Highway. An acceleration lane will enable traffic to enter the Highway at a safer speed to enable merging vehicles to achieve the Highway speed limit more quickly.

Timeframe: Commence design immediately and complete works by 2019.

## Our record in Government

Within the first nine months of coming to office we conducted an audit of roads and based on that report have mapped out a plan to rebuild Tasmania's critical road infrastructure.

We have made significant inroads to address the neglect of critical infrastructure experienced under 16 years of Labor and the Greens.

We are already investing \$827 million to build better roads right around Tasmania.

We listened to Tasmanians who said they wanted a safer Midland Highway to reduce the unacceptable road toll.

We have a budget in balance and the Government is net debt free for the first time ever meaning we can afford to invest in infrastructure for the future – something Labor and the Greens could not do.



## Infrastructure for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

### **6. West Tamar Highway – resealing and widening of road shoulders to provide improved surfaces for cyclists (\$1.5 M)**

A re-elected majority Hodgman Liberal Government will commence the widening and resealing of the West Tamar Highway to provide improved surfaces for cyclists from the junction with Brisbane Street in the city through to the Legana Park Drive roundabout.

The West Tamar Highway is a highly utilised cycling route that caters for both commuters and recreational riders.

This section of the Highway is one of the main arterial routes from Launceston linking the inner city to outer urban areas.

In tandem with the other priority projects outlined, the proposed widening and resealing of the West Tamar Highway will provide a much safer cycling route on our state road network.

Timeframe: Commence design immediately and complete works by 2020.

# West Tamar Priority Upgrades



## Improving traffic flow and catering for future development along the West Tamar Highway

A re-elected majority Hodgman Liberal Government will invest strongly in the West Tamar Highway with our six-point priority upgrades. This will maintain the liveability of communities along its length between Riverside and Greens Beach by reducing commute times and by providing a more efficient, safer road network.