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EARLY START FOR ROAD AND RAIL WORKS AT WILLIAMS LANDING

From the Minister for Roads & Ports

Friday, 01 October 2010

Preliminary works have started on the new railway station and road overpass to service growing residential areas at Williams Landing, as part of the Brumby Labor Government's major investment in transport infrastructure in the western suburbs.

Roads and Ports Minister Tim Pallas and Public Transport Minister Martin Pakula were joined by Member for Altona Jill Hennessy to mark the start of works today on a vital project for residents in Point Cook and surrounding areas.

"The Brumby Labor Government supports sustainable population growth and is determined to link it with new job opportunities, better transport links and services for families," Mr Pallas said.

"The Williams Landing Project provides a significant boost to Wyndham's transport network, building on and supporting new residential communities at Point Cook and at Williams Landing, which is being developed on the site of the old RAAF Laverton Air Base."

Mr Pakula said the new railway station was part of a \$220 million Government investment into expanding rail services across Melbourne, with the initial works to pave the way for major works to start early next year.

"We are taking action to ensure people in Melbourne's west have access to an integrated and sustainable transport network," Mr Pakula said.

"This new premium station is being constructed on the Werribee line, between existing stations in Aircraft and Hoppers Crossing, and will provide integrated public transport services to commuters living in Williams Landing and surrounding suburbs.

"The station will have a new customer service centre, enclosed waiting areas with toilets and approximately 500 car parking spaces."

Mr Pallas said the \$24 million overpass on Palmers Road would provide important access to the new station for the residents in and around Point Cook.

"The Palmers Road overpass will extend beyond the Princes Freeway and across the rail line, providing direct access to the new train station and town centre, as well as connecting to the Princes Freeway and Point Cook," he said.

Ms Hennessy welcomed the early start to works and the massive investment in transport infrastructure for the area.

"Delivering new infrastructure around Williams Landing town centre is an important step to serve the growing community – expected to double in the next 20 years to 96,000 people," she said.

"We're providing better and safer connections for rail patrons, motorists, pedestrians and cyclists, with easier access to schools and community facilities for local people."

The new train station and road connection are expected to open in late 2012 to early 2013.