



Victorian Transport Association Update 10th November 2017



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VTA calls for rethink on Lorimer Street bike path

The VTA is urging state government officials tasked with planning for the Fishermans Bend precinct to abandon plans for a proposed shared bike path on Lorimer Street. The future precinct will be home to 80,000 residents and the government is rightly planning for infrastructure to service the new population. The VTA welcomes infrastructure for cyclists to discourage passenger vehicle use, however a shared path on the only gazetted freight route serving the south side of the Port of Melbourne makes no sense, and is something we thoroughly discourage.

NTI issues security warning for heavy vehicles

VTA supporter NTI is urging operators to be extra mindful of vehicle and trailer security in view of claims data that shows November commonly sees higher reports of malicious damage and theft from inside the vehicle. NTI recommends taking the following security precautions to avoid being targeted: Park in well-lit areas; plan rest stops at designated, populated sites; lock doors and fully close windows whenever the vehicle is left unattended; store valuables and electronic devices out of sight; check the security of your load during every rest period to ensure nothing has been tampered with.

VTA welcomes hi-tech transformation of Napier Street bridge

Victorian Government plans for a high-tech detection system to prevent trucks and other tall vehicles hitting Footscray's Napier Street Bridge have been welcomed by the VTA. As part of the \$1.2 million project, automatic detection systems will be installed on approaches to the bridge to detect over-height vehicles, and traffic signals will be used to stop drivers before they get to the bridge. Electronic variable message signs will direct these vehicles to use an alternate route with closed circuit cameras to capture the details of drivers who disobey the advance warnings. Works on the project will start next month and are expected to be completed by the end of the year.

TIC reports higher October truck sales

The Truck Industry Council has confirmed heavy vehicle sales have continued to deliver good growth during October, with 2,885 new trucks and 525 new heavy vans were sold during the month. Year to date, cab-chassis and the prime mover category was 10.7 per cent above the results at the end of October 2016, while the van category delivered an 8.1 per cent increase over the same period. The heavy-duty sector reportedly achieved its second-best October result on record with 1,188 new units, 36.6 per cent above October's total last year while the medium duty sector maintained "modest positive growth", achieving 652 deliveries and 155 extra trucks so far for the year (+2.7 per cent).

VTA calls for creative thinking on North-East Link

As the North-East Link Authority completes its business case and corridor study for a future North-East Link, the VTA has urged designers and engineers to include creative solutions to encourage through heavy vehicle traffic to use the new road. Much of the public commentary and debate is now around which of the four corridors will be chosen, which is an inevitable part of a project of this size and scale. The VTA [argues](#) the more important consideration should be including innovative ways to incentivise the use of the road by heavy vehicles, such as dedicated freight-only lanes, to reduce heavy vehicle use of local roads.

VTA rolls out the laughs for annual Christmas Lunch

Tickets are now available for the annual VTA Christmas lunch on Friday, 8 December in the MCC Members' Dining Room at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. The VTA is assembling a great afternoon of laughter and Christmas cheer, along with a fabulous three-course meal and drinks. Comedian Dave O'Neil and speed painter Brad Blaze headline the entertainment so don't miss out on what should be a great afternoon. Further information is available and tickets can be purchased [online](#).

Prime Mover November: Anderson urges pre-Christmas safety focus

In his November Prime Mover [column](#), VTA CEO Peter Anderson urges operators to prioritise health, safety and wellbeing in the lead up to the transport industry's busiest time of the year.

Last chance to register for School of Hard Knocks fundraiser

Members are reminded of the VTA's support of a fundraising initiative for [School of Hard Knocks](#), a group that builds self-esteem, trust and helps empower students to progress to better health, further education and employment. Members are encouraged to support and attend a special fundraising breakfast event featuring Toll CEO Michael Byrne and Victorian Ports Corporation CEO Rachel Johnson at the Crown Palladium on Thursday, 16 November. For booking detail go to the following [link](#).

Upcoming events

- [TWUSUPER Golf Day](#) – 13 November 2017
- [VWMA Christmas lunch](#) – 1 December 2017
- [VTA Christmas Lunch](#) – 8 December 2017

Training programs

- Master Class – Team Development – 14 November 2017
- Chain of Responsibility – Sub-contractor management – 15 November 2017
- Pallet Management for pallet controllers – 22 November
- Transition to Transport – 29 November 2017
- Prescribed Industrial Waste – 24 and 30 November 2017, 7 and 16 December 2017

For more details download the flyer at the VTA [website](#) or for the prescribed industrial waste courses download the flyer from the VWMA [website](#).