



Media Release

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BRIGHTON WELCOMES REPLACEMENT BRIDGE INVESTIGATIONS

BRIGHTON Council has welcomed the announcement that tenders are being called for geotechnical investigations to inform the detailed design options for the replacement Bridgewater Bridge crossing.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Michael McCormack and Tasmanian Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Michael Ferguson announced at the weekend that geotechnical investigations would begin in early 2020.

Brighton Mayor Tony Foster said the announcement was encouraging and a clear signal the two Governments were working to deliver the replacement Bridgewater Bridge by the promised 2024 timeline.

Mr McCormack and Mr Ferguson said the new bridge would be much safer than the existing steel bridge linking the Brooker and Midland Highways and was part of the Hobart City Deal designed to reduce congestion and improve transport access across greater Hobart. It represents the biggest single transport infrastructure project undertaken in Tasmania in a generation.

Cr Foster said the replacement of the Bridgewater Bridge was an imperative for Tasmania's road and transport infrastructure, for the effective connection between the north and south of the State, as well as for Brighton and surrounding communities.

"The Brighton Municipality and the surrounding region is recognised as a major growth corridor for southern Tasmania and a replacement bridge is required to encourage and service this growth.

"The new crossing will improve transport and freight access, as well as support growth and commercial development in Hobart's outer northern suburbs and beyond.

"The commencement of actual site works is a positive signal and we look forward to continuing progress in the future," Cr Foster said.

The Federal Government has committed \$461 million and the Tasmanian Government \$115 million to fund the bridge replacement as part of the Hobart City Deal.

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