



Media Release

14 July 2020

Brighton Council welcomes Bridgewater bridge update

THE Brighton Council has welcomed the release of approved design requirements for the replacement Bridgewater Bridge.

The design requirements include the number of traffic lanes, road height and the inclusion of pedestrian and cycle facilities and were released by the State Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Michael Ferguson, as a prelude to the request for proposal expected in coming weeks.

Brighton Mayor Tony Foster said the Minister's update was encouraging and indicated that a fit-for-purpose replacement bridge could be constructed for the promised \$576 million joint Commonwealth / State funding.

Cr Foster noted the current design requirements did not make provision for light rail although the existing rail corridor would be preserved. Undoubtedly, the desired northern suburbs light rail would need to extend to Bridgewater / Brighton to have any chance of viability.

"Nevertheless, the announcement takes us a further step forward on this major infrastructure project that will greatly benefit the Brighton Municipality as well as the rest of Tasmania.

"Brighton continues to develop rapidly and increasing traffic is causing frustration, with congestion impacting travel time reliability and delaying locals, commuters and freight vehicles.

"The construction of a new Bridgewater Bridge will significantly improve Tasmania's vital north south transport link, improve safety and reduce congestion for the 22,000 vehicles that travel across the bridge each day.

"The Brighton Council has stressed the importance of the bridge replacements for many years and it is now gratifying that this will become a reality in 2024," Cr Foster said.

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For further comment contact Brighton Mayor Tony Foster, mobile 0419 357 927