

24 August 2023 Media Statement

## Heysen Boulevard rail crossing will be delivered

Quotes attributed to Mayor David Leach.

"Mount Barker District Council is excited to have entered into an agreement with the Malinauskas State Government to fund up to \$2.5 million for the construction of a new rail level crossing on Heysen Boulevard between the Minters Fields and Bluestone estates.

"Since 2018, Council has been advocating to successive State Governments that the railway corridor section is of utmost importance among the remaining segments of the connector road that have yet to be built. The Malinauskas State Government and Council have now agreed a partnership approach to fund up to \$5 million for the project.

"The need to complete this section of road has advanced beyond the stage of debate and negotiation. Council views this investment as crucial from a community social and safety perspective.

"Opening up this critical part of the connector road will further contribute to removing traffic congestion on other roads, connecting people to shopping precincts and other facilities, and creating a safe and enjoyable walking and cycling route.

"Funding of Council's contribution will come from reprioritising the \$47 million growth and safety related transport projects listed in Council's adopted Long Term Financial Plan 2023 - 2033.

"The Department of Transport and Infrastructure (DIT) are leading the project and are working on designs. Completion of design work by DIT will inform the timing for commencement and completion of this crucial section of Heysen Boulevard.

"Council fully appreciates the commitment from the Malinauskas State Government to fix a significant policy oversight from former governments. Our community continues to grow and present new challenges and opportunities. Council looks forward to future collaborations with State and Federal Government to invest in infrastructure so that we can continue to build a special place and community that is a vital part of our state's future prosperity."

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