



Department of Transport

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12 November 2020

Ms Rebecca Hudson
Coroner's Registrar
Coroners Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
SOUTHBANK VIC 3006

Via email: [cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au]

Dear Ms Hudson,

INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF ANTOINE ALAM (COR 2019 1064)

I refer to Deputy State Coroner Caitlin English's findings report COR 2019 1064, dated 12 August 2020, regarding the investigation into the death of Mr Antoine Alam (**the report**).

The Department of Transport (**the department**) wishes to convey its sincere condolences to Mr Alam's family.

The report included the following recommendation for VicRoads (which as of 1 January 2020 is part of the department):

...that the City of Greater Geelong and VicRoads review pedestrian safety along Thompson Road, North Geelong, and consider installing pedestrian crossings or traffic refuges between the bus stops on the east and west sides of the road.

The department can advise you that the recommendation made by the Coroner is underway.

The department has recently finalised community consultation regarding proposed changes to Thompson Road, between Victoria Street and Cox Road (**the project**). The project includes installing new pedestrian refuge islands and changing lane arrangement to reduce through lanes to one in each direction.

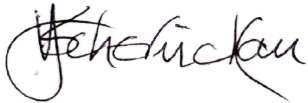
Funding of \$4.6 million has been committed to this important safety project, with construction likely to start in March 2021.

A refuge island is proposed near the bus stops at which Mr Alam was struck, in line with the recommendation made by the Coroner.

A plan of the proposed changes is attached for your information and is subject to change following consultation outcomes with the community and stakeholders.

Should you require any further information, Mr Mark Tonkin, Acting Manager Program Development at Regional Roads Victoria's South Western Region within the department [T: (03) 5225 2506] E : mark.tonkin@roads.vic.gov.au] would be pleased to assist.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vanessa Schernickau', written in a cursive style.

**VANESSA SCHERNICKAU
DIRECTOR SOUTH WESTERN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT**

Date: 16/11/2020

(attach)



1. Image 1 – Concept of proposed changes to Thompson Road, in the vicinity of the fatal incident.